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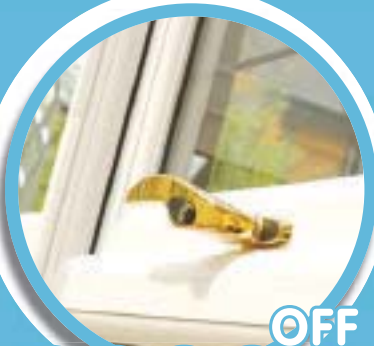
Issue No 122  
Available from Wednesday,  
January 27, 2010



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## JOB...

Helping you make  
the right choice

PAGES 37-40



## PROPERTY...

Buy-to-let market  
promising for '10

PAGES 27-31



## SPORT...

Round-up of all  
the local action

PAGES 42-43



# FAIRYTALE JOURNEY TO MANCHESTER UTD

## WHAT'S ON & WATCH

yourkenttv.co.uk



Julie Maddocks finds out why now is such a good  
time to base a business in Kent. Search 'business'

## ALSO INSIDE

LETTERS..... PAGES 12-13  
LEISURE..... PAGES 16-24  
MOTORING..... PAGES 32-36  
CLASSIFIED..... PAGE 41

ISSN 1753-119-5



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**METEORIC RISE:** Chris Smalling was learning his trade with non-league club Maidstone in 2008, before he was snapped up by Premiership club Fulham - now it looks like the 20-year-old is set for a dream move to Old Trafford

BY ANNA WHITE AND TOM HOWARD

A FORMER Chatham schoolboy looked set last night to join the biggest football club in the world, Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson's bid for Chris Smalling, 20, is believed to have been accepted by Fulham.

Just two years ago as an 18-year-old, Chris was at non-league Maidstone United. Fulham offered him a professional contract after he was seen playing for England Schoolboys.

The reported bid from Manchester United came shortly after reports that Arsenal were considering making an offer for the talented England under-21 international.

Former Chatham Grammar Schoolboy Chris made his first-team debut in the Premiership in December when he was chosen to replace injured Fulham teammate Brede Hangeland against Chelsea.

## Big break

In an exclusive interview just two weeks ago Chris told Yourmedway how he wanted to follow in the footsteps of former England and Nottingham Forest defender Stuart Pearce, who also got his big break from a non-league club while playing for England schoolboys.

Chris, who was spotted while playing for England Schoolboys, joined Fulham from Maidstone in May 2008 and has progressed through the reserves into the first-team.

While under the guidance of Fulham boss Roy Hodgson, he has earned a call-up to England's under-21s, who are managed by Pearce, and has made three appearances.

Pearce also graduated through non-league

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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**2** Why Gurkhas are working with a 500-year-old weapon of war at Dover Castle. **Search 'siege'**



**3** Gills boss Mark Stimson looks to the future... and back at the FA Cup exit at Accrington Stanley. **Search 'Gills'**

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Printed by Newsfax

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# Pupils in tribute to Holocaust victims at memorial day

BY MATTHEW BEECH

NATIONAL Holocaust Memorial Day will be marked at a ceremony today with the help of school pupils and the Youth Parliament.

The youngsters will pay tribute at a special exhibition at the Corn Exchange in Rochester.

The event, which will be held on Wednesday, January 27, will include artwork and sculptures, as well as readings, a universal prayer, music and dancing.

Jon Weiner, Chairman of Medway's event said: "In remembering the Holocaust, we also call to mind the capacity that humans have to inflict horrendous crimes against one another and on whole groups of people and we remember the terrible atrocities which have occurred both before the time of the Holocaust and up to the present day.



**NEVER FORGET:** Exhibition aims to remind people of the atrocities of the Holocaust

"We must not let these events fade away into history, to be out of sight and out of mind and it is our duty to educate those who follow us so that they may learn the lessons of these terrible events."

National Holocaust Memorial Day was launched in 2001 as a reminder and a tribute to the six million Jewish victims of the Nazi Holocaust in World War Two.

The theme for this year is 'Legacy of Hope' which will commemorate the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

## 'I've still got a lot to learn'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

football at Wealdstone before getting his big break and Smalling said the experience of working with the under-21 boss has been invaluable.

He said: "I have loved my time with the under-21s and getting to know some of the young stars in the Premier League has been great.

"The trips away have been brilliant, but learning off Stuart has been excellent for me. He is someone I admire and he began his career in non-league football like me. I hope I can follow in his footsteps."

Four days after Christmas, the former Chatham Grammar schoolboy was handed his first Premier League start, replacing the injured Brede Hangeland, in arguably Fulham's biggest game of the season against Chelsea.

The Whites took a shock lead in the fourth minute through Zoltan Gera and looked to be on course for a memorable win. But an equaliser from Didier Drogba and an unfortunate own goal from Smalling saw Chelsea snatch three points.

Despite putting through his own net, Smalling earned rave reviews for his performance and has featured in the Fulham side several times since.

"It was great a great opportunity for me and I thought I played well," he said.

"When the teams were shaking hands and I saw players like Didier Drogba, I had to pinch myself as I shook his hand, but I'm not letting it get to me.

"I know I've still got a lot to learn and I'm not going to get ahead of myself."

## yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

### Information sought in stab murder case

POLICE have released a picture of a 66-year-old man who was found dead in his flat in Chatham.

Antoine Denis was found in Copperfield House, New Road on Saturday, January 9. He had died from a single stab wound.

Officers would like to speak to anyone who had seen or spoken to Mr Denis before January 9.

Anyone with any information should call Kent Police's Major Crime Department on 01634 884011 or CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

Kim Albone, 39, of Luton Road, Chatham was charged with his murder and remanded in custody until she appears at Maidstone Crown Court on Friday, February 5.



### Drama students ready to take their first bow

SIX budding actors take to the stage for their first-ever performance Thursday (January 28).

The students from the Medway Adult and Community Learning Service acting for beginners' course will stage Edward Bond's play The Sea.

The 12-week sessions conclude with the performance at the Rochester Adult Learning centre in Eastgate.

The performance starts at 7.30pm and is expected to last 30 minutes.

For more information call 01634 338400 or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.medway.gov.uk/adultlearning).

### Count on Arthur to raise a laugh or two

RADIO 4 star Count Arthur Strong is coming to the Brook Theatre with the Medway Comedy Club.

The Chatham venue is hosting the one-time variety performer on Saturday, February 13.

The award-winning comedian, who received a Sony GOLD Award in 2009 for Best Radio Comedy, is set to hit the stage for an over 18's only show.

Tickets cost £13, or £12 for Comedy Club members and the gig starts at 8pm.

Call the box office on 01634 338338 or visit [www.thebrooktheatre.co.uk](http://www.thebrooktheatre.co.uk).

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# I'll fix broken Britain, says Cameron on visit

■ BY MARIJKE COX

DAVID Cameron has vowed to fight violent crime and stop the "social recession" at the launch of his Broken Society campaign in Kent.

The Tory leader addressed community representatives at a meeting at the Sunlight Community Centre, Gillingham, on Friday where he pledged to address the social issues he says are blighting society.

And while Cameron insisted violent crime was rising, figures released the same day show that in the year ending September, 2009, violent crime in Kent had dropped.

Focusing on the horrific torture of two young boys in Doncaster, Mr Cameron stressed that now is the time to face up to "broken Britain".

He said: "I think it's important as we go in to this election year to make sure we talk about social issues and social breakdown as well as economic issues and economic breakdown."

Highlighting the Doncaster case, where two young brothers tortured and almost killed two other young boys, he said: "I don't think it's right every time one of these events take place to say it is just some isolated incident of evil that we should look away from and forget about."

"Are we going to do that every time there is a Jamie Bulger or a Baby Peter or a Ben Kinsella or a Gary Newlove or what has happened in Doncaster?"

"We shouldn't, we should ask what has gone wrong with our society and what we're going to do about it."

Mr Cameron admitted the latest police figures show a drop in crime, but stressed



Picture: MATTHEW BEECH

**IF I'M ELECTED:** David Cameron launched Broken Society campaign at the Sunlight Community Centre in Gillingham

that violent crime, involving guns and knives, was rising.

However, figures released on the same day as Mr Cameron's visit showed the total number of crimes across the Kent Police area had fallen by 12 per cent.

Violence against the person was down by eight per cent, sexual offences by 12 per cent, and robbery had declined by 20 per cent.

Jonathan Shaw, Labour's South East regional minister, put the drop down to investment by Labour.

The Chatham and Aylesford MP said: "Though every crime committed is terrible for the victim, like every job lost a personal tragedy, the evidence clearly shows that Labour investment is working."

"It's also clearer than ever that the Tories would be a disaster for both, choking off

## 'Boris Island' airport is not in Dave's plans

DURING Friday's visit David Cameron ruled out building an off-shore airport and saying London Mayor Boris Johnson has no business suggesting it.

Speaking to the BBC later in the day, Mr Cameron said if elected to government it would not allow Boris Island to be built in the Thames Estuary.

The Tory leader said: "Boris is a great mayor of London doing an excellent job, but building airports is not his responsibility. I mean we don't want to see the third runway at Heathrow and we can stop that from happening."

"We want to see instead high-speed rail and a proper rail hub at Heathrow, so that all those flights... that serve places that could be met by rail, all of those will be met by rail. That's our policy."

recovery with their irresponsible economic plans and opposing tough action on crime and anti-social behaviour."

But during his meeting, Mr Cameron stressed the need to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour by calling for power and discipline to be handed back to authorities, such as teachers and police, rather than focusing on reaching targets.

He claimed that Britain was in a "social recession" and has been for years.

He said: "I would say and what I believe most profoundly has gone wrong is one simple word and that is 'responsibility'."

"I think we are in danger of becoming an irresponsible society and we need to make Britain a responsible society."



POP IDOL: Brit award-winner Will Young

## Will king of the castle concerts

WILL Young is the latest headline act for this year's Castle concerts, after being confirmed to play at the event.

The singer songwriter, who shot to fame eight years ago after winning ITV's Pop Idol, will perform for the first time at Rochester on Thursday, July 15.

The double Brit award winner, who has sold more than eight million records world-wide, is joining a line-up that already boasts the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra and the rock band Status Quo.

Tickets for Will Young go on sale on Monday, March 1 at 10am.

Community Services boss Howard Doe said: "Another year, another fantastic line-up for Medway's music lovers to enjoy."

"There really is something for everyone this year and we want to welcome all these great artists to Medway and give everyone something to remember."

Tickets for the Castle Concerts are available at The Central Theatre box office, The Brook Theatre box office, by 01634 338338 or online at [www.castleconcerts.co.uk](http://www.castleconcerts.co.uk)

## Shopping centre no place for car antics

A ZERO-tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour is being taken by police at Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre.

The hard stance follows reports of nuisance vehicles in and around the mall's car parks, which have been reported by security guards and the centre's management.

Ward officer PC Debbie Tyler said: "Having listened to these concerns we will take immediate action against anyone caught driving dangerously or acting in an anti-social way in the car parks."

## Man charged with burglary offences

A GILLINGHAM man charged with a string of burglary and theft offences is due to appear before Medway magistrates this morning.

Darryl Davis, 28, from Watling Street, was arrested after an alleged theft from a taxi at Gillingham Sikh temple on January 19.

He was also charged with two other offences of attempting to steal from cars at the same place on December 29, last year, and January 8.

Davis also face two more charges of burglary with intent to steal, including an alleged burglary at New Brompton College.

# Drug and sex crime on rise despite fall in overall offences

NEW figures released by the Home Office suggest overall crime is down by more than 22 percent in Medway, a fall of more than 1,200 offences – but sex and drug crime has gone up.

Reports of burglaries and car crime dropped by a third compared with the previous year according to the figures, while robbery fell by a fifth.

Chief Superintendent Steve Corbishley said: "These figures are a clear reflection of just how much work is going in to make Medway as safe as possible."

"A fall in over 400 offences of criminal damage is testament to the impact that our Neighbourhood Teams have had across the area."

"It is also encouraging to see the positive reduction in burglary, car crime and robbery."

However, drug and serious sex offences increased over the same period.

A five per cent increase in drug offences (an extra nine crimes) and sex offences reported to police went

up 12 percent (188 in all) according to the Kent Police figures.

The Chief Superintendent added: "Whilst drug offences have risen slightly we are currently taking very robust action against those involved in the use and distribution of illegal substances."

"Over recent months we have also seen significant prison sentences given to people who have been involved in this trade."

"During 2010 we will commit more officers to patrol the streets of Medway and we are confident that our communities will continue to gain confidence in the way we are listening to the issues that matter to them and are taking positive action."

"To see that overall crime in Medway is down by over 22 per cent is a real boost for the area."

"We are not complacent and will continue to work alongside our partners at Medway Council and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) to improve the service we provide to the public."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

## Boosting blood supplies

BLOOD supplies have dipped sharply in the last month due to the cold snap and Christmas holiday.

However, a new year push by registered donors and first timers is being organised to boost supplies.

Zeeshan Asghar, of NHS Blood and Transport, said: "Donated blood cannot be stockpiled because of its short shelf life.

"Platelets, a clotting factor used to treat leukaemia and cancer patients, last just five days. Red cells last a little longer – 35 days.

"It is vital that regular and new donors come forward and ensure sufficient blood is available."

The NHS requires 7,000 donations a day to meet demand, most of which is used for routine or planned operations.

The procedure takes an hour in total, but only ten minutes giving, which is painless.

For more details, visit [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk).

## Comedy show blackout

A POWER cut led to the cancellation of Lee Mack's show at the Central Theatre on Thursday.

Electricity could not be restored so the Chatham date of the comedian's national tour was called off.

A council official said: "Unfortunately, due to a major power failure, Lee Mack's show had to be cancelled. We will contact ticket holders to let them know if we have been successful in booking Lee for a later date."

## Dance sessions on offer

DANCE fans in Chatham have a chance to learn the Charleston, waltz, tango and more at afternoon tea sessions.

White Road Community Centre will host a free taster session on Monday, from 2-4pm. The courses are part of a programme to encourage more people to learn something new for their own enjoyment.

Telephone 01634 338400 or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.medway.gov.uk/adultlearning) for more details about courses.

## Legendary voice of rock

SINGER-songwriter Paul Carrack will perform at the Central Theatre, Chatham, on Thursday, February 25, from 7.30pm.

The former member of Ace, Squeeze, Mike and the Mechanics and Roxy Music will play songs from his four decades in British music. His hits include How Long, Tempted, Silent Running and worldwide smash The Living Years. Call 01634 338338 or visit [www.thecentraltheatre.co.uk](http://www.thecentraltheatre.co.uk) for details.

# Footie tribute to river fall victim Sonny



**SADLY MISSED:** Sonny Pataria died in River Medway

■ BY MATTHEW BEECH

A MEMORIAL football match will be contested by Kent Police and the Woodlands Youth Centre next month.

The game is a tribute to Sonny Pataria, who died in February, 2009, after accidentally falling into the River Medway.

The Sonny P Trophy will become an annual fixture between the Gillingham youth centre, where the Liverpool fan was an active member, and Kent Police.

Neighbourhood Officer PC Steve Seal said: "Sonny was a popular, active member of the youth club and his death still has a big impact on those who attend the club.

"A memorial garden has been established in the club's grounds, where members and family can go to reflect.

"The Woodlands team will be made up of young people from the centre, family, friends and a couple of Charlton Athletic FC coaches, who run football training at the centre on Thursday nights.

"Hopefully this will be an ongoing annual event, which will help to build on the good relationship we have with the centre and young people in the area."

The former New Brompton College pupil was

found in the river on February 11 and after his death a Get Higher Railings For Medway River 4 Sonny P RIP campaign on social networking site Facebook was backed by more than 2,100 members.

Founder Rachel Smith said: "The River Medway needs higher railings to save people like our poor Sonny P. Let's take action in saving more lives."

The match, which is supported by Sonny's family, is due to take place on Saturday, February 13, starting at 10.30am.

## Mob movie opens screen classics season



FILM fanatics are in for a treat as the screen classics season returns to the Central Theatre.

The Chatham venue is hosting the movie event, which opens with a showing of 1972's *The Godfather*.

Marlon Brando and Al Pacino star in the mobster movie, widely regarded as one of the finest films ever made, to be shown on Tuesday, February 9.

The screen classics season aims to give motion picture fans a chance to see some of the most influential and biggest films in cinema history as they were on release.

Host Nick Walker will give a brief talk introducing the film before the 7.30pm showing.

Tickets are priced at £6 – £5 if booked online – while students pay £3.50 and customers who book for four films can see a fifth for free. Call 01634 338338 or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking) for more information.

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# Screening drive spurred on by Jade's tragedy

■ BY MATTHEW BEECH

NHS staff are campaigning to raise awareness of cervical cancer by urging women to make the most of screening and vaccination services.

The health drives comes as Medway NHS trust supports European Cervical Cancer Prevention Week, which began on Monday.

Last year, trust figures show 112 women were referred in February and 129 in March, compared with 63 and 80 for the same months in the previous year.

The 'Jade Goody effect' is seen as the reason behind the increase, with the disease came into the public domain with the reality TV star's death in March 2009.

Consultant Steve Norman said: "Cervical cancer is preventable. Regular screening allows abnormalities to be picked up before they have the potential to become cancerous and the cervical cancer vaccine protects against certain forms of the HPV virus which are known to cause cervical cancer.

He added: "It's excellent news that more women are being screened, but there are still some that put it off."

Dr Alison Barnett, director of public health, said: "In Medway, about ten new cases of cervical cancer are diagnosed each year and about five women die. Yet it is one of the few preventable cancers. Cervical cancer screening and the HPV vaccine will save lives."

Big Brother contestant Ms Goody's high-profile battle with cervical cancer was credited with a dramatic reverse in the downward trend in women going for screening.

The mum-of-two died was just 27 years old when she died. The publicity generated by Ms Goody saw the number of women seeking screening increase by 400,000.

Health secretary Andy Burnham said: "These figures show the remarkable effect Jade Goody's tragic case had in reversing a downward trend in the number of young women attending cervical screening.

"Jade's bravery and openness in her fight against cervical cancer has brought home to young women across the country the importance of regular checks.

"As a result, nearly half a million extra women attended cervical screening, which will save the lives of hundreds of women in the years ahead."



**EARLY DEATH:** Big Brother contestant Jade Goody succumbed to cancer in March 2009

Picture: REX FEATURES

## yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

### A stitch in time for Jackie

A BUDDING entrepreneur has been boosted by a grant from Medway Council.

Jackie Holder started Sew Biz! – a dance costume and dress-making company – after receiving £1,000, at her home in Franklin Road, Gillingham.

The Partners for Growth start-up scheme has given the 37-year-old the confidence to become her own boss.

She said: "I received help from Business Link and Enterprise First and was then invited to a meeting with Medway Council.

"Training courses have given me a good foundation in how to manage a business, paperwork and advertising."

The business grew out of a hobby which saw Jackie make prom and bridal dresses, as well as costumes for clubs and troupes, including Dance Alley and DK Twirlers in Chatham. Contact Sew Biz! on 0781 7574184 or by email at sewbiz@hotmail.co.uk.

### Vaccination second phase

SWINE flu vaccinations are entering their second phase, with GPs writing to parents of children aged between six months to five years offering the immunisation.

Dr Alison Barnett said: "Young children seem to be particularly vulnerable. They are far more likely to be hospitalised and, nationally, some have died as a result of swine flu. I urge parents to protect their children now."

The first phase of immunisations focused on priority groups such as pregnant women and patients with serious illnesses.

Dr Barnett said: "It remains important to practice good hygiene."

For more information, visit [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk).

### Teacher recruitment day

COUNCIL chiefs are looking to headhunt newly-trained and experienced teachers in a drive to bring top candidates to Medway.

The recruitment open day aims to attract candidates, including those in the last year of their training, to schools in the towns.

The event, at Gillingham FC's Priestfield Stadium, on Thursday, February 4, from 1.45pm and 4pm, will include primary, secondary and special educational needs exhibitors. For more details or to register, visit [www.medway.gov.uk/teachingcareers/](http://www.medway.gov.uk/teachingcareers/).

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## Help biker retrieve his stolen Kawasaki

THIS distinctive motorcycle has been stolen from Rochester. The orange Kawasaki KLV 1000 was taken from outside the owner's house in Martin Road.

The thief is believed to have struck between 8.20am and 4.30pm on Wednesday, January 13. Detective Inspector Dave Berry said: "The bike is very distinctive. It has a bright orange tank, smoked front screen, orange tax disc holder and orange oil cap. We want to hear from anyone with information."

Call Kent Police on 01634 792521 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



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# Nicole opens the book on a life with cancer

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

CANCER battler Nicole Dryburgh says she hopes the sequel to her inspirational first book will give further hope to fellow patients.

The 20-year-old from Whitstable was diagnosed with cancer when she was just 11 and has since suffered a brain haemorrhage and a stroke, leaving her wheelchair-bound, blind and virtually deaf.

But despite her predicament, Nicole has devoted her life to helping others and has so far raised more than £130,000 for charity.

Her first book *The Way I See It* earned her an army of admirers when it was released in 2008, with its sequel, *Talk To The Hand*, covering the hectic months in her life that followed.

Nicole said: "I've only ever had nice comments about *The Way I See It* and I'm really happy people have enjoyed reading it. It's been out for two years now and I still get emails almost every day from someone new who has read it."

"I decided to write the second book because my first kind of ended on a cliffhanger. I was still on chemotherapy at the time and having other health problems, so I wanted people to know I'm still here and fighting."



**FIGHTER:** Nicole Dryburgh is inspiring many with illness

"So much has happened since my first book came out, so it's a good way to let people know how things have turned out. It's different because I'm not just telling my story, I'm sharing my advice, too."

Nicole was a competition-winning gymnast when, at the age of just 11, an operation revealed a rare type of cancerous tumour close to her spine.

Through radiotherapy it was reduced, but two years later she suffered the brain haemor-

rhage that robbed her of her sight. This was followed by a debilitating stroke that left the youngster confined to a wheelchair, and in late 2007 tumours were discovered behind Nicole's ears that have practically destroyed her hearing.

Yet despite such setbacks Nicole has devoted her life to helping others and is currently working with the Teenage Cancer Trust to try to raise enough money to fund a specialist unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Surrey.

She said: "I enjoy organising events and coming up with different ideas of ways to raise money. I know what these young people are going through, and that spurs me on to raise as much money and awareness as I can."

"I'd also like to write more books in the future, but I'm not too sure at the moment what to write next."

Named Britain's Most Inspiring Fundraiser in 2008, Nicole acts as a glimmer of hope for young and old people alike whose lives are being torn apart by illness.

When asked if she had any advice for such people, she replied: "Yes, just to stay positive and never give up."

"I believe a positive attitude can get you through anything. Obviously it can be hard sometimes, but just look to the future and keep smiling."

## Drivers get advice on cutting child deaths

MOTORISTS are to be reschooled in road safety as part of a month-long campaign to reduce the number of child deaths in Kent.

Police will visit 40 accident black spots to give advice to drivers about the importance of driving safely, while the 'stop, look and listen' method of crossing the road will be hammered home to pupils.

Officers hope the operation will lead to a reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured on Kent's roads, which in 2008 stood at 87.

A further 570 received 'slight' injuries. Acting Chief Insp Preston Chalk said the campaign came about as part of the You Said, We Did initiative, which promotes police following up residents' concerns.

### Campaign

He said: "It's absolutely crucial that children are taught about road safety from a young age."

"They're often very frantic and enjoy running about, but it's important they know they can't always be like that when they're not in school."

"We hope this campaign will allow children to reflect on the consequences of running in the road and the impact it would have on their parents, friends and teachers if something terrible were to happen to them."

"Thankfully, the schools already work very hard to promote this issue, as do the majority of parents, so we are just enforcing the message."

The campaign – launched in partnership with Medway Council's road-safety team, Kent Highway Services and other partner agencies – was launched at Senacre Wood Primary School in Maidstone last week.

# Concentration camp survivor's lessons about racism

BELA Rosenthal was just six months old when she was taken prisoner by the Nazis.

Her Jewish father had already been killed at the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in 1942 and her mother's death was soon to follow when she was struck down with TB.

Orphaned at just two years old, Bela was released from the Theresienstadt concentration camp when the Red Cross took it over from the Nazis at the end of the Second World War in 1945.

Despite having little memory of the Holocaust, during which six million Jews were murdered by the Nazis, Bela – now Joanna Millan – has clear memories of her childhood.

And to bring home the terrifying realities and pay respect to those who died, the mother-of-three gave her poignant account to schoolchildren at St John's Catholic School in Gravesend.

Her talk was timed for just before Holocaust Memorial Day, which is being held today (Wednesday).

This year's theme is 'The Legacy of Hope', which encourages young people to learn from survivors' experiences.

Mrs Millan, who lives in London, is using her own experience to push home the message about racism and tolerance to youngsters.

The 67-year-old, who has eight grandchildren, managed to survive in the Theresienstadt camp – 50 miles outside Prague – thanks to a lady called Litska Shallinger.

Knowing that the food in the concentration camp was contaminated, Litska would collect vegetables and hide them under her clothes so she could feed the young girl.

On May 3, 1945, the Red Cross took over the camp and Bela was freed, but she was not to return to her home in Berlin.

"My first memory was being put in a house by the Russians, while they decided what would happen to us," she said.

"The British government said it would take up to 1,000 children, but it took 300 in the end."

"I was flown with five other surviving orphans – it was a very confusing time. There was no family for me in Britain, so I was put in a home."

She was eventually adopted by a wealthy Jewish couple in London who changed her name to Joanna.

Eight years ago, Mrs Millan, who is chairman of the Holocaust Survivors Association, married a Jewish man and continues to have a close relationship with her own family. "I think I've tried to compensate for what I missed out on," she said.

This year's Holocaust Memorial Day commemorates the 65th anniversary of the Auschwitz-Birkenau liberation.

Karen Pollock, chief executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust, which organised the visit, said: "Joanna's story is one of tremendous courage during horrific circumstances."

"By hearing her testimony, St John's Catholic School's students will have the opportunity to learn where hate and racism can ultimately lead."



**IDENTITY:** Bela is now Joanna Millan



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Page 41



# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### JAMES HEMING



**Q** Tell us a bit about yourself

**A** I am James Heming, 39. I'm from Whitstable and one of the presenters on Heart's Breakfast Show with James and Gemma. I am the James bit.

**Q** What is your job and what does it involve?

**A** Officially I am a radio broadcaster, which involves entertaining Kent every morning as they wake up on Kent's No 1 commercial radio station.

**Q** How did you get into radio?

**A** It was back in 1992 that I got my first break, but years before that in my early teens I knew it was all I wanted to do but had no idea how to do it, or indeed if I would be any good. And to start with, I really wasn't very good.

**Q** Ten years is a landmark, what are your feelings now?

**A** I just can't quite believe that I have been getting up at 4.30am every morning for 10 years now. Yes, it is a landmark, but it has flown by. I mean, when we were younger I'm convinced we thought a decade was a massive amount of time. It's been like being on the radio for the whole of the 80s, just not quite as revolutionary.

**Q** What are your highlights?

**A** One main one has to be being able to evolve to keep it fresh. I never thought I would be particularly good at evolving or changing.

My boss probably still thinks I'm not, but a lot has changed in 10 years and I'm still there, so I must be doing something right. That's a highlight for me.

Other highlights would be all the amazing places I have broadcast from around the world, my favourite being Melbourne, Australia. Three blokes in a hotel, the entire Victoria tourist board at our beck'n'call, helicopter flights, after-show parties with rock bands and writing our very own Aussie soap... what a week!

**Q** Any big bloopers you wish to share?

**A** There is only one that I remember, but I genuinely think it is the only one. I got so impassioned with a subject, I accidentally included the 'F' word in my delivery. I'll never forget the looks on the faces from everyone else in the studio. I immediately apologised and most people said it was the funniest thing they'd ever heard.

**Q** What other broadcasting goals do you hope to achieve?

**A** Blimey, that's a tough one. The commercial radio industry has changed dramatically

over the past five years or so. It's certainly not a place you can make your million just by standing in front of a microphone. Once, maybe, but not any more. It's a daunting question because I still have 30-odd years of work to go and this certainly won't last forever.

I'd love to perhaps end up on a national station and do radio that involves more current affairs. I'd love to be a foreign correspondent.

**Q** What skills are needed to be a good radio host?

**A** Realise there is nothing funnier or more relatable than the truth; remember who your audience is; and check that your character is someone people will want to spend time with. Try not to be like someone else – have confidence that who you are will be appealing.

**Q** What do you like to do in your spare time?

**A** Sleep, eat (less at the moment), watch great American TV series, go sailing and try to keep the peace among the children.

**Q** Anything you would like to add?

**A** Just a huge thank-you to everyone who has supported the show. If you weren't there listening, I wouldn't be here. I put a huge value on the fact that people choose to listen to us here at Heart, especially with so much choice around. It's extremely flattering. Thank you.

**Q & A**

The Heart FM DJ speaks to **Simon Robinson** about his 10th anniversary as a breakfast presenter, a trip to Melbourne in Australia which turned out to be a highlight of his career and one memorable on-air blooper

**you said**

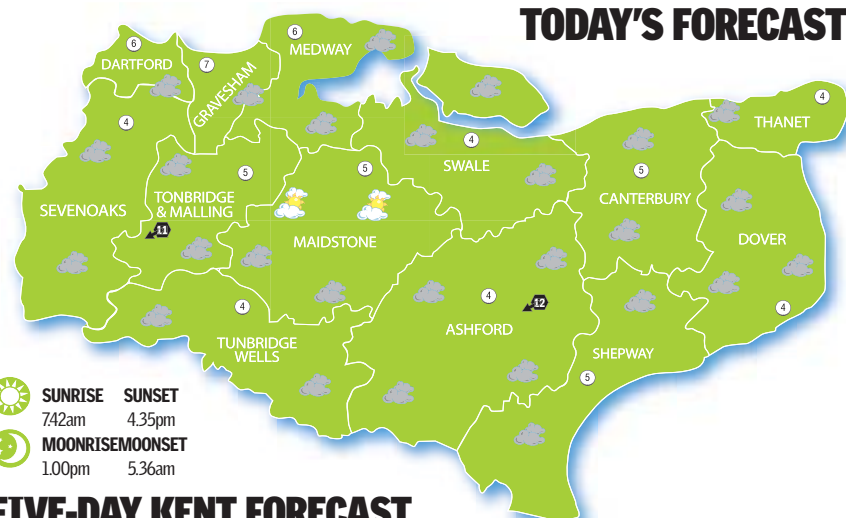
**we did**

**You were concerned about people playing excessively loud music late at night**

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## WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	12:43pm	6.2m
	Sunday	1:31pm	6.4m
Dover	Saturday	10:51am	6.7m
	Sunday	11:40am	6.8m
Dungeness	Saturday	10:53am	7.6m
	Sunday	11:39am	7.9m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:21am	5.1m
	Sunday	12:10pm	5.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	12:33pm	5.9m
	Sunday	1:21pm	6.1m
Whitstable	Saturday	12:37pm	5.4m
	Sunday	1:27pm	5.5m

## AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	-2°C	Madrid	8°C
Athens	7°C	New York	3°C
Barcelona	9°C	Paris	5°C
Beijing	-1°C	Rome	8°C
Bombay	31°C	Sydney	25°C
Cape Town	23°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	4°C	Tokyo	10°C
Gibraltar	14°C	Vancouver	7°C
Hong Kong	18°C	Warsaw	-18°C
Las Palmas	19°C	Wellington	15°C

**SUNRISE** 7:42am  
**SUNSET** 4:35pm  
**MOONRISE** 1:00pm  
**MOONSET** 5:36am

## FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	3°C	4°C	5°C	5°C	4°C	Gravesend	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	5°C
Canterbury	2°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	3°C	Maidstone	3°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	4°C
Chatham	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	Ramsgate	2°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	3°C
Dartford	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	5°C	Rochester	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C
Dover	2°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	Sevenoaks	2°C	4°C	3°C	2°C	3°C
Faversham	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	Sittingbourne	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C
Folkestone	2°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	Tonbridge	3°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C
Gillingham	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	Tun Wells	3°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C



SPECIALITY: Banana and cream fudge at The Fudgery

## Judges go bananas for fudge at food awards

FOR the third consecutive year, The Fudgery in Gillingham has made it onto the final short-lists in the Taste of Kent Awards.

The Gillingham based sweet producer has been voted into the top three in the producer of the year and product of the year categories.

The awards, which are celebrating their sixth year as the county's mark of excellence, has seen a remarkable increase in voting, with more than 10,000 voters having their say, a 89 percent increase on 2008.

Produced in Kent manager, Julie Monkman, said: "This is a truly outstanding result for the popularity of an award seen as the ultimate mark of food and drink excellence in the 'Garden of England'.

"Despite the challenging economic times we are facing, Kent has voted with its taste buds.

"With such a dramatic rise in votes, Kent's consumers have demonstrated that outstanding local food and drink quality is what really counts when they are shopping or dining out."

The Fudgery, one of 680 food and drink establishments were nominated, now faces a wait while judges, mystery shoppers and mystery diners select the winners from all 12 categories.

The successful nominations will be revealed at a dinner and awards ceremony at the Fairfax Hall, at Leeds Castle, near Maidstone at the end of February.

• For more information visit [www.producedinkent.co.uk](http://www.producedinkent.co.uk) or [www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk](http://www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk).



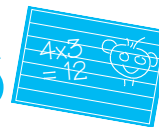
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## BREAK TIME

### Students' get trip of a lifetime to Africa

ADVENTUROUS students from MidKent College's Medway Campus saw out 2009 with a trip to South Africa.

Those on the animal management course travelled to Africa for a field-trip to complement their studies and put theory into practice.



**TOP CAT:** National Diploma student Kim Johnston

The first three nights were spent at Riverside Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre near Tzaneen, where they looked after a collection of monkeys and baboons.

This was followed by an expedition along the Drakensberg escarpment mountain range in Mpumalanga.

The visiting party also spent two days in the Hlane Royal National Park in Swaziland, seeing elephants, lions and other animals in the big game park.

Programme leader Alistair Down said: "This year's trip was a great success."

"The students gained some experiences they will never forget."

Also on the expedition were teenagers from the horse management course from MidKent College, which is also based on the Medway campus.

They spent two weeks at an equine veterinary practice and a racing yard and herded cows on a cattle ranch.

Lecturer Julie Lukehurst said: "The trip gave our students an opportunity to complete both safari and endurance rides in incredible surroundings."

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and one they loved every minute of."

# Survivor Zigi gives pupils lessons from Holocaust

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

**HOLOCAUST** survivor Zigi Shipper told horrified students of his time in Auschwitz-Birkenau last month – during a visit timed to mark the 64th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp.

The 79-year-old told MidKent College pupils how he was sent to the concentration camp at the age of just 14 and how he was fortunate to escape execution on a number of occasions.

Speaking after his harrowing testimony, Mr Shipper said: "Very few Holocaust survivors want to talk about their experiences, and for a very long time we only ever talked about it to one another because what we had experienced was so horrific, so incomprehensible, we feared that no one would believe us."

"I give talks like this because the Holocaust is our history and it's important young people grow up knowing all they can about it."

"It's hard for many young people to believe that human beings are capable of the horrific crimes committed at this time, but human beings are capable of this."

"It's important that young people learn not to hate, and just as importantly, that they never stop asking 'why?'"

Mr Shipper lost his father and grandparents at the hands of the Nazis after being forced out of his home in Lodz, Poland, shortly after war broke out in 1939.

At the age of just 11, having already survived two years inside a run-down ghetto, Mr



**INSPIRATIONAL:** Zigi Shipper with A-level students Ayshe Tilke and Samira Chambas on his recent visit

Shipper was thrown onto a 're-settlement' lorry, but managed to jump off and run away.

Three years later, however, he was once again herded onto a cattle truck, with no food or water, to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where the occupants were ordered to get out, leaving their luggage behind them.

Seeing smoking chimneys, but not knowing their significance, Zigi was submitted to 'selection', and sent to the left. It was later discovered that within an hour of their arrival, all those sent to the right had been killed.

Mr Shipper eventually tasted freedom in November 1944 when a British air attack

forced Nazi's leading a death march to flee.

After spending three months in hospital recovering from typhus, Mr Shipper arrived in the UK in 1947, where he has lived ever since.

Among Mr Shipper's audience was a group of A-level History students, who will be visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau next month.

Rachel Flewett, 18, said: "Hearing Zigi's account was very emotional. It makes you realise what you take for granted every day."

"We can learn a lot from men and women like Zigi. If he can suffer what he has and still not feel hatred, then no one else has any right to hate anyone or anything."

SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)

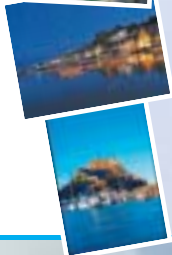
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# Police Chief defends E.ON security letter

## Fuller impartial over public's right to legal protests

KENT'S Chief Constable Mike Fuller has spoken out against accusations he undermined the public's right to protest at Kingsnorth power station.

Speaking exclusively to KOS Media, Mr Fuller denied claims made in the Guardian newspaper that he strayed from his duty to 'neutrally facilitate' peaceful protests when he advised the energy firm E.ON to take greater steps to disrupt any future activity on the site.

The accusations relate to an incident in October, 2007, when six Greenpeace activists scaled a 200m smokestack to protest against plans for a new coal-fired power station, causing more than £30,000 damage.

Mr Fuller has been criticised for suggesting in a subsequent letter to E.ON that the German firm should seek "legal remedies" – including High Court injunctions – to scupper such demonstrations in the future.

But he told KOS Media the advice was issued to the company in response to specific concerns about security at the site.

He said: "The company was treated in exactly the same way as any victim of crime, namely we provided it with the requested advice about security.

"Kent Police has a public duty to inform all organisations about any threat to their premises.



**DENIAL:** Mike Fuller refutes newspaper claim

"The letter is clearly advising E.ON to improve security to prevent further trespass at a site where there is the possibility of death or serious injury to anyone entering illegally.

"As Chief Constable I have a duty to the taxpayers of Kent to avoid excessive policing costs wherever possible, and that was what the letter was seeking to do by suggesting possible solutions to E.ON."

Nicknamed the Kingsnorth Six, the Greenpeace activists were all spared jail in September 2008, when they convinced a crown court jury that any damage they caused was justified in the context of the potential damage that would be caused to the environment by carbon dioxide emissions from a new power station.

E.ON said at the time it was concerned other protestors would see the verdict as permission for them to break in and damage important power plants.

Mr Fuller's letter to the company – which was sent about eight months before the trial – states that his counter-terrorism security advisors could help the firm improve site security, and that it was "grossly inappropriate" for Kent taxpayers to foot the bill for any of its shortcomings.

He told KOS Media: "We have not attempted to make any secret of the letter and it is available for the public to read on our website. It also specifically acknowledges Greenpeace's right to carry out lawful protests.

"Kent Police has always been completely impartial about legal protests and, as the Chief Constable of Kent, I have never strayed from my duty to remain impartial when policing demonstrations."

The accusations levelled at Mr Fuller represent yet more negativity surrounding the way the force has handled environmental protests at Kingsnorth.

Last week Kent Police admitted using stop-and-search powers illegally at the infamous Climate Camp demonstration in summer 2008.

Politicians, protestors and academics involved in the rally have always claimed the police response was disproportionate to the threat posed by the activists.

# MEP calls for burka ban to avoid 'divided society'

BAN the burka is the call from a top politician in Kent who says the veil has no place on the streets of the UK.

Nigel Farage is the former leader of the UK Independence Party and is a Kent MEP.

He said veils worn by some Muslim women, to completely cover the face, should be outlawed.

Mr Farage said fines could be used to dissuade women from wearing them, but policing this would be problematic.

But he insisted there are three main reasons why the burka, or full-face jibab, should never be seen in the UK again.

He told KOS Media: "I can't wear a hoodie in Bluewater, I can't wear a balaclava on the underground, and I can't wear a crash helmet in a bank – and all for good reason.

"This is especially true as one of the 7/7 bombers in London escaped because he had a veil over his face. So the security point is inarguable.

"Secondly, we believe the veils are being used as a way to subjugate women. In a society where we talk about equality of opportunity, and fair play for all regardless of age, race, class, sex, this is clearly being used to keep some women down, and there are forthright critics of this from the Muslim community itself.

The third reason he is arguing for the ban is help prevent the creation of a divided society.

Mr Farage, from Bromley, said: "All the main parties for decades have been calling for a multi-cultural society.

"And yet we are seeing a divided society of which the burka is



**BURKA:** Women in traditional dress

a symbol. We are increasingly seeing ghettoised towns and cities along with a rise in radicalism and even more worrying, the increasingly loud calls for Sharia law to be introduced.

"We want to live in a society that has one law that is applied equally and fairly to everybody. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams said two years ago that he saw the imposition of Sharia law in Britain's major cities as being inevitable.

"We do not agree with or want that analysis.

"The law has to apply to everyone or it is not worth a light."

The Kent Muslim Welfare Association was set up in the 70s to support its diverse Islamic community.

It said its vision is to provide a range of Islamic services for the local Muslim community in Kent, with a view to improving quality of life and enhancing community cohesion.

Anwar Khan is the co-ordinator for education and community cohesion, and he said: "It's about freedom. If women want to wear them, that is their choice and they should be free to do so."



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# yourletters



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## TALK TIME

### HANNAH COOK

The manager of the Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre (KMBRC) talks about the habits of our local wildlife



#### What is the aim of the KMBRC?

Our core aim is to collect, collate and make as widely available as possible, wildlife and habitat information for Kent and Medway. We provide information for everything from education and research projects to conservation management plans for nature reserves, as well as reports to go with planning applications to ensure that wildlife is protected during building and development work.

#### Have there been any promising trends over recent years?

There has been a huge amount of effort put into preserving and protecting Medway's green spaces over the past few years. The Valley of Visions Project, funded in the main by the Heritage Lottery Fund and co-ordinated by the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Unit, has recently invested £2.5million to help preserve the local landscape, wildlife and heritage while encouraging opportunities for people to gain access to these areas.

#### How do you feel climate change could affect wildlife in Medway?

The changing climate in and around Medway has already led to us receiving more reports of European migrant species being seen in the area. Hummingbird Hawkmoths used to be just an occasional summer visitor from across the channel but last year we had far more sightings in the warmer months as well as our first reported sighting in January, suggesting that the climate is now warm enough for them to successfully over-winter here too.

## YOUR LETTERS

### 4x4 drivers are the bullies of the road

I was most annoyed to read the article in Your Blogger, praising 4x4 vehicles ('Why weren't our roads ready for the inevitable big freeze?').

I am sorry if I may be slandered the polite 4x4 drivers out there, but from what I can see, the bigger the vehicle, the bigger the wimp inside. These vehicles are driven by people who are afraid of the real world, but want to bully pedestrians, cyclists and those in smaller vehicles. The idea of there being any more of them is complete anathema to me!

A 4x4 vehicle is heavy, so is dangerous to other road users; it takes far more resources to build, emits more pollution and uses far more fuel than a smaller vehicle. In addition, due to its weight, it damages the road and helps create even more potholes!

And about the potholes: if people drove at a more reasonable speed when they knew there were potholes waiting to be mended, they would save a lot of damage to their cars. I was walking along a country road last week and I was nearly run down by a 4x4 going far faster than necessary, and of course taking the whole width of the road – our local country lanes were not built for these huge vehicles.

My husband commutes nine miles each way to work, cross-country, throughout the year – by bicycle. In the snow and ice he just jumps on his recumbent tri-cycle instead, and carries on. We



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And remember, [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) is updated daily, bringing you the latest news from across Medway as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourmedway before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out. On [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly acclaimed e-editions.

had high snow drifts around Deal, but he never had a day off work. I commute the same distance by cycling to the station and then putting my bike on the train, which I did through the bad weather. During the snow I

also commuted for a few days by scooter along the main road, so I know it was gritted and practically pothole free – a 4x4 was not necessary.

In my opinion, the only need for a four-wheel drive vehicle is if

you live on a farm or down a track in the middle of nowhere. They are an unnecessary anachronism for the rest of us, and should be sent back to the 1980s where they belong.

name and address supplied

### Wright got it wrong about 4x4s

Gary Wright endorses the use of 4x4s, claiming that they are the ideal vehicles to cope with our cracked and potholed roads (Your Blogger, Jan 20).

Has it not occurred to Mr Wright that perhaps it is the prolific use of these monstrous Chelsea Tractors that is contributing to the incremental collapse of our road surfaces?

These craters and fissures can't all be down to the occasional weather cold snap as he fancifully suggests.

Even celebrity petrol-head Jeremy Clarkson described 4x4 owners (who don't need them for farm work or for crossing rough terrain) as "clinically insane".

If more people purchased the green, economical motor vehicles that Mr Wright sees fit to ridicule then we would notice a dramatic improvement to both the roads and our air quality.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler  
Canterbury

### Walking in a winter blunderland

As well as the roads being unprepared during the recent cold weather, the pavements were left like a skating rink.

Not only was it very hazardous

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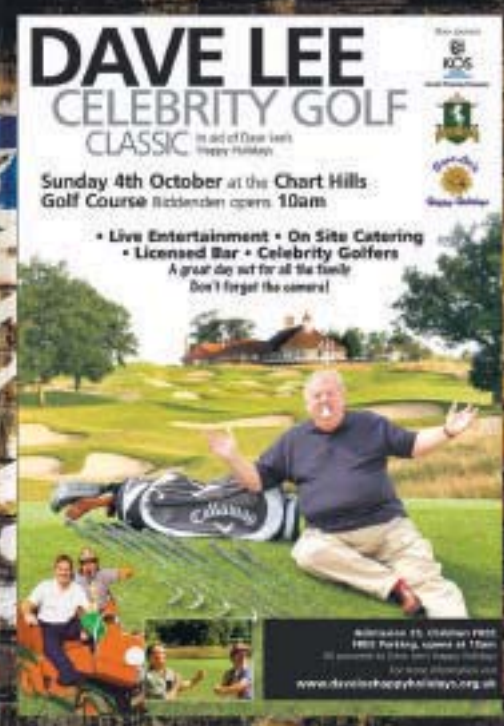
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to drive – walking was even worse. I lost count of the number of people I saw slipping around and a fall on a concrete pavement – even when covered in snow – is never pleasant.

Maria King, by email

## Cheaper train fares is right destination

The story currently being featured about an increase in rail fares shows just how far behind current thinking the Government is.

Across Europe, railways are subsidised by the government and consequently fares are extremely competitive.

Not so here, where the Government is refusing to put any more money into the network.

How can this be squared away with a commitment to reducing car usage and the consequent emissions?

Also, a large amount of investment has gone into the railways with the high-speed train network across Kent.

This must mean that those in charge want people to use it.

So cheaper fares is surely the way forward.

Brian Collins, by email

## Government is off track with fare rise

Last week you carried a story to say that commuters face further fare rises on the railways.

Surely at a time when the Government is doing all it can to get people out of their cars and onto public transports this is as counter-productive as it is possible to get.

If ministers were serious about pushing a more environmentally friendly agenda, then making it more attractive to use the railways should be at the top of the policy list.

Instead, those who do avoid clogging up the roads each morning and evening are being further penalised.

Harry Edwards by email

## Rob is Key to Kent's cricketing success

I was sad to see a certain Rob Key attracted not one iota of interest from any Indian Premier League club when he put himself forward to play in cricket's most glamorous and lucrative tournament.

Let's hope he got the message –

it's only Kent that wants and needs you, so that's who you should concentrate on.

Mike Swift, by email

## Nominate an adult learner for an award

The deadline to nominate people for Adult Learners' Week Awards is approaching. These awards are a great way to celebrate the inspirational, outstanding and remarkable achievements of all adult learners.

You can nominate individuals, groups, families and even projects who deserve recognition for their efforts and who will inspire others to transform their lives through learning.

Visit [www.alw.org.uk/nominate](http://www.alw.org.uk/nominate) to fill out an online application form, or email [alw@niace.org.uk](mailto:alw@niace.org.uk) or phone 0116 204 4200 for more information. Nominations close at 5pm on Friday January 29, 2010. Everyone who is nominated receives a certificate.

The awards are the highlight of Adult Learners' Week, co-ordinated by NIACE (the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education,) which is the UK's largest and longest-running festival of learning. This year it runs from May 15 to 21.

Richard Crabb, NIACE

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# yourmedwayblogger

Is it any wonder our children just cry 'day off school' at the sight of snow when teachers set such a bad example?



## The cold, hard facts about Ofsted attendance records

I LOVED the idea put forward by the county council last week that teachers should make their way to their nearest school on days when snow makes it difficult to get in.

And I was amused to hear that our teachers' employment contracts already tell them to do just that and they then had the cheek to criticise county councillors who didn't know.

Why, then, hadn't they turned up at their nearest school on snow days in line with their contracts?

Then I listened in wonder as a supply teacher phoned Radio Kent on the subject and squirmed pathetically about her colleagues' failure to do their jobs earlier this month.

She finally said yes, she would go to her nearest school... "if she could get out of her road".

Like many parents, I was again left incensed earlier this month by the ease with which

schools simply close up when there's snow... but it seems Ofsted (that bastion of ensuring standards) may actually be to blame.

Unfortunately we live in an age when teachers – who get loads more holiday than anyone else in the working world – believe that a little bad weather means they should have the day off school.

Without wishing to go on about this too much, surely if you take a job – any job – you agree with your employer to turn up on time and do the work for which you are paid.

Whether you are a teacher, shopworker or office worker, you have a responsibility to your employer.

Live too far away from your workplace? That's your choice – think about it before you take the job on. If it's going to snow, then if you live too far away, make arrangements to stay nearby – or, of course, take it as a holiday day.

But, with teachers setting their appalling example to our children, we now have a cul-

ture in Britain where snow means 'have a day off'. Fortunately our police officers, doctors, nurses and ambulance drivers still seem able to get into work when the white stuff falls.

And while you hear people say 'I can't get to work', you never seem to hear 'I can't get home' when it's been snowing. This is Britain, not Siberia.

So, back to teachers who finished their two-week Christmas break just in time for their annual fistful of snow days.

Why, you ask, do so many schools close?

Well, it seems that watchdog Ofsted may really be to blame. Attendance is one of the standards by which school performance is judged.

And if the school opens on a snowy day and children do stay at home, the school will be penalised.

However, if it closes for the day because of snow, Ofsted marks it with 100 per cent attendance.

So now you know.

### GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



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### LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Simon Robinson**, on 01303 817185 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk).

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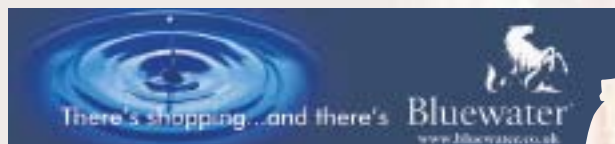
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# yourcompetition

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Secondly you will get a **£57 pair of simulant diamond stud earrings from CARAT jewellery**. Available in 9k white gold, the

stud collection offers a variety of shapes and sizes ranging from heart and teardrop shapes to the more classic oval design. See [www.carat.cc](http://www.carat.cc).

Thirdly get **£100 to spend in Rigby & Peller**, Bluewater. With hundreds of beautiful haute couture products to try you will be joining a long list of celebrities and even Royalty who all enjoy the Rigby & Peller effect. See [www.rigbyandpeller.com](http://www.rigbyandpeller.com).

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Bluewater Valentine's Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is February 9, 2009.

**Question: How many stores are there in Bluewater?**

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For more gift ideas go to [www.bluewater.co.uk](http://www.bluewater.co.uk). Anna Moore, Bluewater: 07980 299192; Carat, Bluewater: 01322 423000; Rigby & Peller, Bluewater: 01322 422600.



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## yourleisure

# Murder on his mind

Reality TV star Lee Mead, who won the West End role of Joseph, is turning his hand to a classic comedy part

### LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME

Monday to Saturday, February 1-6  
The Churchill, Bromley



FROM Biblical visions to dark prophecies of the future, Lee Mead is making another leap of faith.

The song-and-dance man shot to fame when he appeared in the BBC talent-search show Any Dream Will Do in which aspiring musical stars battled to become "the people's Joseph".

Mead saw off tough competition from 19 other hopefuls to win the title role in Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat in 2007 and he played the character to packed houses until early last year.

His debut solo album, Nothing Else Matters, sold almost 200,000 copies and he recently released his second album. But now he returns to the stage to take on the lead role in the witty Oscar Wilde comedy Lord Arthur Savile's Crime which sees him dealing with very different predictions of the future.

Lord Arthur Savile enjoys a privileged position in life and could hardly be happier – he is considered a pillar of Victorian society and is looking forward to getting married. With the lovely Sybil Merton promised as his bride, the future looks bright for the wealthy young man.

However, things take a dark turn when Lord Arthur is introduced to a clairvoyant by the name of Podgers who announces that the nobleman will commit a murder at some time in his future.

Haunted by the prophecy and desperate to protect his bride-to-be, Lord Arthur decides to carry out the deed before he marries. So begins a hunt for the perfect victim, but murder turns out to be more difficult than he had anticipated.

Mead is joined on stage by popular entertainer Gary Wilmot, who has recently appeared in a national tour of Chicago and starred in West End productions of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Copacabana and Me & My Girl.

Dynasty star Kate O'Mara brings a touch of glamour to the cast, having also starred in television shows such as Howard's Way and Bad Girls.

David Ross has appeared in comedies such as The Green Green Grass, Red Dwarf and Goodnight Sweetheart, while Darren Nesbitt is best known for his roles in TV drama Special Branch and the classic film Where Eagles Dare.

To book tickets, phone the box office on 0844 871 7620 or alternatively visit the website at [www.ambassadortickets.com/bromley](http://www.ambassadortickets.com/bromley).



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## TIM VINE

Thursday, February 4  
Orchard Theatre, Canterbury

ALL aboard for an evening of relentless hilarity as an unstoppable comedy force heads for Kent.

The king of the one-liner, Tim Vine is a remarkable joke machine whose shows are packed with great gags, barely giving the audience time to catch their breath between quips. In his latest stand-up show, *The Joke-Amotive*, Vine is going full steam ahead for a night of unfettered laughter.

During the last couple of years, Vine has been busy entertaining fans both in the live arena and on television. He released his second critically acclaimed DVD, *So I Said To This Bloke...* in 2008, while entertaining thousands of people on the sell-out *Punslinger* tour and appearing in the BBC sitcom, *Not Going Out*.



He also found time to win *Celebrity Mastermind* by answering questions on his specialist subject, Elvis Presley.

Last year the award-winning comedian – brother to journalist Jeremy Vine – performed at the Melbourne

Comedy Festival and managed to squeeze in a cameo appearance on Australian soap opera, *Neighbours*.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £16. Book online at [www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk) or call the box office on 01322 220000.

## IN THE BEGINNING

Saturday, January 30  
St Matthew's Community Centre, Wigmore



THE story of creation is told in a whole new way with the fast-paced production, *In The Beginning*.

Presented by Saltmine Theatre Company, the show portrays the book of Genesis in a way you have never seen before. An emotional roller-coaster of a show, it takes audiences through the story of the start of all things in an entertaining and enlightening way.

A host of unlikely characters find themselves caught up in the action, unwittingly playing their part in one of the greatest stories ever told. Find out how the Bible explains the process of creation in this energetic and fascinating production.

Since the company was formed 25 years ago,



Saltmine Theatre Company has featured in many major events and at international conferences, as well as regularly contributing to the programme of Spring Harvest. To find out more about the company, visit the website at

[www.saltminetrust.org.uk](http://www.saltminetrust.org.uk).

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £6.50, including refreshments. Doors open at 7pm for coffee before the performance. To book tickets or find out more call 01634 230780.

## THE BEST BLUES BROTHERS SHOW

Saturday, February 6  
Central Theatre, Chatham



EVERYBODY needs to spend an evening in the company of Jake and Elwood in Medway next month.

Don your pork pie hat and shades and get ready for the ultimate party at the Best Blues Brothers Show in the World...EVER!

All the great soul and blues songs will be belted out by the talented twosome as they invite audiences to spend an evening in Chicago.

Accompanied by a 10-piece band, critics say the pair entertain with as much flair as the original Blues Brothers, John Belushi and Dan Ackroyd.

The show is sure to contain all the Blues Brothers hits, such as *Everybody Needs Somebody, Sweet Home Chicago, Gimme Some*



*Lovin' and Dancing in the Street*. More great music is celebrated with guest tributes to James Brown and the wonderful Charvelles. So whether you are a long-time fan of the original film or just love good music, do not miss

the chance to enjoy a Chicago party in Chatham.

The performance starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £19/£17.50. To book tickets call the box office on 01634 338338 or visit [www.whatsonmedway.co.uk](http://www.whatsonmedway.co.uk).

## MEDWAY LEISURE

### Support trainee actors at their debut show

NOVICE actors tread the boards for the first time this week in a scene from Edward Bond's classic play, *The Sea*.

Students on the Medway Adult and Community Learning Service Acting for Beginners course perform at Rochester Adult Learning Centre at 7.30pm on Thursday, followed by refreshments. For more information call 01634 338400 or go to [www.medway.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.medway.gov.uk/adultlearning).

### Find healthier way of life with local website

FIND out how to improve mental well-being and boost your happiness at a new local website.

Tips on how to be happier and keep yourself in good shape can be found at [www.liveitwell.org.uk](http://www.liveitwell.org.uk).

Hosted by Sevenoaks MIND, the website is funded by Kent County Council's commissioning and contracting team for mental health.

### Laughter guaranteed at comedy club night

WITH his sharp wit and surreal observations, Hal Cruttenden is sure to get the laughs at Medway Comedy Club.

His TV credits include *The Omid Djalili Show*, Rob Brydon's *Annually Retentive* and *The 11 O'Clock Show*.

Cruttenden is at the Brook Theatre in Chatham at 8pm on Monday and tickets cost £10/£9. The show is strictly for over-18s. To book call 01634 338338 or visit [www.whatsonmedway.co.uk](http://www.whatsonmedway.co.uk).

### Don't miss chance to see Chix singing blues

FOR an evening of live blues music, head to the Eagle Tavern in Rochester.

Described as 'probably the best girls' blues band this side of the Mississippi', ChixWivPix are renowned for quality music. Find out more about them online at [www.myspace.com/chixwivpix](http://www.myspace.com/chixwivpix).

They will be at the pub in High Street at 9pm on Thursday. For details of the venue visit [www.theeagletavern.org.uk](http://www.theeagletavern.org.uk).

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# yourmedwaymusic

## Folk scene starts fightback against neo-Nazi infiltrators

BY DOMINIC GREENWOOD

A GIG aimed at keeping fascism out of folk music – and showcasing some of the best young folk talent in the UK – takes place in Maidstone next month.

Wheeler Street, Los Salvadores and the Didi Bergman Trio will perform at Flaming Henry's under the Folk Against Fascism banner.

Organiser Helen Treacy said: "The BNP is trying to distance itself from its past – the association with neo-Nazi bands like Skrewdriver – and position themselves as the defenders of British traditions.

"The party manifesto encourages members to infiltrate their local folk scene through funding and reviving local traditions. They have also been selling the work of respected musicians through their website, with the implication the artists support their views.

"The folk scene has reacted with revulsion as we are a welcoming, friendly and inclusive lot, and our politics couldn't be further away from the BNP's racism, neo-Nazism and thuggery.

"We want to make it absolutely clear that we do not support their policies and we resist their attempts to take over our culture."

The line-up includes some of the country's most hotly-tipped new folk bands.

Headline act Wheeler Street [www.myspace.com/wheelerstreet], named after the road in their home town of Maidstone, have proved themselves a major draw on the national folk circuit and boast appearances at Glastonbury and Cambridge



**CALLING THE TUNE:** Three acts will perform at the Folk Against Fascism concert next month

Folk Festival. The seven-piece play a variety of traditional instruments and throw electric guitar and drums into the mix, giving their music a contemporary feel. Los Salvadores [www.myspace.com/lossalvadores], appearing as a three-piece for this gig, have also established themselves on the national festival scene, writing catchy, energetic songs inspired by Kent folk legends.

Helen said: "Wheeler Street are a brilliant, young, lively folk band who represent everything that is exciting about the current scene.

"I have seen them live many times now and know they will put on a great show.

"I asked Los Salvadores to play because I have been a fan of their brand of energetic folk since I saw them busking in the garden of my local pub one Saturday afternoon. They are very politically aware so were happy to support the cause."

Opening the night will be popular Medway singer-songwriter Didi Bergman [www.myspace.com/didibergman].

Helen said: "Didi is a wonderful singer from Medway who went down a storm at the Sweeps Festival in Rochester – her voice reminds me of the late Sandy Denny.

"She was also keen to perform and make a stand against what the BNP are trying to do.

"The acts have generously offered to play for reduced fees, so after covering expenses I'm hoping to make a sizeable donation to Folk Against Fascism's running costs.

"We will also keep a little aside to go towards future gigs. We have a long wish list of artists we'd like to book and are hoping FAF gigs will become a regular feature of the Maidstone folk scene."

The Folk Against Fascism fundraiser is on Thursday, February 4, at Flaming Henry's banquet hall (above the restaurant), 62 to 63 High Street, Maidstone.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £10 from wegotickets.com, or £12 on the door. There will be a 25 per cent meal discount for ticket holders. For more details, visit the website [www.folkagainstfascism.com](http://www.folkagainstfascism.com).

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Watch Callista's audition for the Britain's Got Talent TV show. Search 'Callista'



### TOP FIVE KENT CHART

- 1 We Are Tides – Mice and Men (from Canterbury)
- 2 Gristlefridge – Unbreakable (from Whitstable)
- 3 Shelta – Beautiful Girl (from Bexley)
- 4 The Flack – Forget Me (from Deal)
- 5 The Keytones – Autumn Time (from Canterbury)

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# Dishes show variety really is spice of life

### ■ Twydall Tandoori

THE Twydall Tandoori prides itself on offering a wide range of Indian dishes, bringing together a vast range of the cuisines which the sub-continent offers.

Over the nine years it has been in business the eatery has established an excellent reputation throughout the Medway towns and beyond for the excellence of its cuisine and the friendliness of its knowledgeable staff.

The area was lacking a good quality restaurant when the venture was first established, but that has been well and truly rectified as diners take their meals in comfortable surroundings.

A recent refurbishment has added to the quality and this August will see the restaurant's ninth anniversary of supplying quality food to discerning diners.

All the dishes are prepared individually, and fresh spices are used in order that the full flavour and variety of the food can be appreciated by diners, who know they want that little bit more than is offered at the usual run-of-the-mill curry house.

The restaurant can cater for families, with high chairs available on request for very young children. Birthdays, stag and hen parties are also catered for.



At weekends the restaurant can get busy so recommendations are advised.

There is also a banquet night held every Tuesday, where customers can choose any items on the menu for a set price.

Customers can order a takeaway over the telephone and collect their orders within 15-

20 minutes. A 10 per cent discount is offered on orders over £10.

The restaurant is open for lunch from noon to 2.30pm and for dinner from 5.30-11.30pm, although it closes at 10pm on Sundays.

**Twydall Tandoori Restaurant, 50 Twydall Green, Gillingham, ME8 6XJ 01634 386110/267141**

### CHEF RECOMMENDS

#### Bloomers at the Overcliffe

Starter: Scottish wild smoked salmon with prawns, mixed leaves and seafood dressing.  
Main course: Baked lamb layered with a walnut and mushroom stuffing  
Dessert: Spotted Dick and custard  
Telephone number: 01474 322131

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Starter: Tandoori mixed starter  
Main course: Ayre fish Jalfreezi with mushroom, coconut or garlic rice.  
Side dish: Brinjal (aubergines with onion) or Aloo Gobi (cauliflower and potato)  
Telephone number: 01634 386110/267141

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Starter: Chicken chat – chicken with onion, cucumber and tomato in a thick chat sauce  
Main course: Sylhet special: chicken tikka with creamy sauce, fruit, coconut and almond  
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## ON GENERAL RELEASE

### BROTHERS (15)



In Jim Sheridan's remake of Danish drama Brodre, two siblings are divided by their bond to the same woman. Tobey Maguire is a soldier whose mental wounds threaten to tear his family apart.

### SEX & DRUGS & ROCK & ROLL (15)



Distinguished by an incendiary lead performance from Andy Serkis, Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll is a biopic of 1970s punk pioneer Ian Dury that is as unconventional and fantastical as the man himself.

### UP IN THE AIR (15)



George Clooney plays a loveless man who earns his living by flying around America and making total strangers redundant in Jason Reitman's comedy drama.

# Clive drops the act to show who's the daddy

■ BY SHEREEN LOW

CLIVE Owen has attracted thousands of female fans by smouldering his way through films such as Closer, Sin City and Duplicity. Yet his own girls are keen to see him play a new kind of role.

The 45-year-old star says his daughters Hannah and Eve would like him to do more family-friendly roles.

"They're very keen for me to do a film to give them bragging rights at school," he laughs.

Owen's latest film, The Boys Are Back, is a step in that direction.

In the drama, based on journalist Simon Carr's memoirs and shot in Australia, Owen plays Joe Warr, who struggles with being a single parent to his six-year-old son after his wife dies of cancer.

The 45-year-old admits his own experience of fatherhood was "a huge part of wanting to do the film".

"I'm a parent and it's a big part of my life. I recognised I had similar experiences to a lot of things in this movie, so it felt familiar," he says.

Besides its appeal as a more family-focused drama, it was really the script that captured Owen's imagination.

"It's a beautiful script. I thought it was unusual in its delicacy and intelligence in exploring these relationships, and a beautiful exploration of both grief and parenting."

He adds: "It wasn't sentimental, it was precise. I found it terribly moving when I got to the scene where Joe was telling his son that his mother might not be around much longer. I found the whole conversation upsetting."

The Coventry-born actor made it clear to



FATHERHOOD: Clive Owen takes on a more caring role

director Scott Hicks that he wanted a film steeped in reality.

"I'd seen lots of family movies where the family is in this lovely, warm bubble, and even when things get tough, it's all very sweet.

"Real families aren't like that – it's much more volatile than that and this script explored that in a very honest way," he says.

Owen, married to wife Sarah-Jane, brought his real-life experiences as a dad into the role.

"I didn't have the huge, tragic loss that they have, but in terms of the ups and downs of parenting, I felt I've experienced quite a few of them," he says.

"I was interested in the scenes showing the tougher times in the film, for example when

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the kid has a tantrum in the car. I could relate to that scene and I was interested to make that tough for my character because all parents will relate."

The Boys Are Back follows Joe as he gets to grips with parenthood and adopts his own way of parenting.

In one scene, he allows his son to ride on the bonnet of the car as they drive along Australia's Aldinga Beach.

"Those scenes tend to split people – some people say it's very irresponsible and others think it looks like fantastic fun.

"The film isn't advocating this way of parenting, it's saying this is this guy's approach to it. It's not about being responsible or irresponsible, it's trying to get their lives back on track."

THE BOYS ARE BACK  
Certificate 12A

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## YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

### BELLAMY'S PEOPLE BBC Two, 10pm, Thursday

IT'S rarely that I look forward to a TV show as much as Bellamy's People, the new slice of comedy on BBC Two.

Put together largely by the team that made the Fast Show, with a few others such as Amelia Bullmore added to the mix for good measure, this looked like a cracker from the moment I saw the trailer.

More of a spoof of those 'celebrities meet normal people' series than a sketch show, we meet an array of characters in each episode, each with their own strange stories to tell.

Host Gary Bellamy (Rhys Thomas) takes us up and down the country to meet the real inhabitants of our British Isles.

Bellamy himself is a kind of Alan Partridge-lite character, eager to connect with everyman Britain – especially if there's some good footage that showcases his people skills in it for him.

He is out and about, meeting the eccentrics who phone in to his radio show, but he's really little more than the foil and straight man for those with whom he converses.

We meet the 28-stone, bed-ridden man-mountain Graham Downes (Paul Whitehouse), who is eager to finish off any uneaten bowls of Sugar Puffs left by his mother, and the politically opposed and upper-class Coombes sisters – but there are dozens more.

Of course, all these characters are exaggerations, but this serial gets far closer to telling us about those who walk our streets and live behind the country's net-curtains than EastEnders ever will.

Outright jokes are thin on the



**OUT THERE:** The Fast Show team has come up with another BBC classic, Bellamy's People

ground, but this is a triumph of observation and I dare say you will spot characteristics of people from your own life in the myriad of personas we will meet over the course of the next seven weeks.

Bellamy's People they may be, but these are people you know, with whom you work and socialise, and that is a scary thought.

Be careful out there.

## YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



**AQUARIUS** (Jan 21-Feb 19)

**DEVOTING** time to a creative project gives you a profound sense of contentment. Lately, you've been expending too much energy on other people's needs. Don't be surprised if someone offers to pay you for your work. An admirer may ask you to teach a class.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



**TAURUS** (Apr 21-May 21)

**SOMEONE** from a foreign country finds you irresistible. It's flattering to get so much attention, but take care this flirtation doesn't threaten a serious relationship. If you're single, feel free to embark on a new romance. Your amour will introduce you to all sorts of new things.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



**LEO** (Jul 24-Aug 23)

**YOU'VE** always had a weakness for beautiful clothes. This week, you have the opportunity to add something snazzy to your wardrobe for next to nothing. Even if you do end up spending more than you initially planned, don't worry. Your image will open previously-closed doors.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



**SCORPIO** (Oct 24-Nov 22)

**TAKING** a short pleasure trip will put the twinkle back into your eye. Recently, you've been slaving away on a work project, trying to add more money to your bank account. Now this particular project is finishing up, you have a wonderful chance to get away.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



**PISCES** (Feb 20-Mar 20)

**WHO** you know is more important than what you know this week. Whether you're on the lookout for love, employment or fun, reach out to your friends. An earthy woman might have just the opportunity you desire. Let her set you up on a date or job interview.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



**GEMINI** (May 22-Jun 22)

**YOUR** sex appeal is at an all-time high. Finding love is as simple as crooking your finger in an admirer's direction. The two of you have a powerful physical connection and will spend many enjoyable hours locked in each other's arms. You're sure to turn heads at a glittering party.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



**VIRGO** (Aug 24-Sep 23)

**BE SURE** to buy yourself a lottery or raffle ticket this week, as your propensity for winning is very strong. If you've developed a strong attraction for a newcomer to your social circle why don't you be brave and ask them for a date? The two of you will hit it off instantly.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov 23-Dec 21)

**SPENDING** more time on the people and activities you enjoy will be a blessed relief. Recently you've been devoting a lot of attention to some very unrewarding group projects, but this will be going out of your life. The opportunity to move to a new neighbourhood could fall arise.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



**ARIES** (Mar 21-Apr 20)

**YOUR** charm and wit goes over well in the work arena. A hidden benefactor could sing your praises to a powerful executive. You helped them when they were just starting out and now they are in an ideal position to return the favour. It just goes to show it pays to be nice.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



**CANCER** (Jun 23-Jul 23)

**A CLOSE** relationship gives you the courage to try something new. Normally, a traditionalist like you has difficulty venturing into unfamiliar territory. Now, with the help of a business contact, best friend or romantic partner, you have the confidence to embark on an adventure.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



**LIBRA** (Sep 24-Oct 23)

**RESPONSIBILITIES** which have been weighing on your mind are starting to fade, leaving you more free time to spend with your family. Making improvements to your home gives your spirits a lift. If you can't afford new furnishings, you can check out ways to spruce up old ones.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22-Jan 20)

**PAYING** careful attention to your appearance will yield rewards. You're not particularly vain, but you do like to look your best. Take careful note of which colours and styles look best on you. This will help narrow down your choices. It will also help you make your money start working for you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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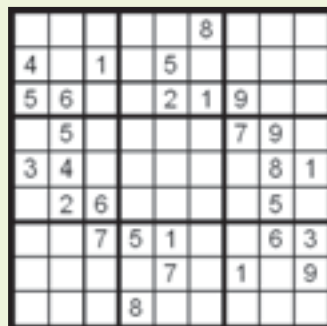
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No122

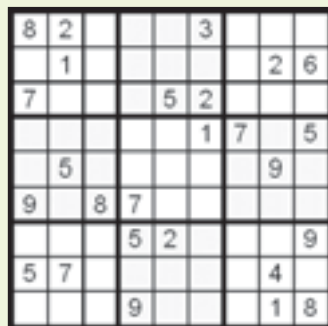
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### EASY



### MEDIUM



### HARD



### CRYPTIC CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 Carriage squashed a homburg (8)
- 6 Nearly half the month in charge with this tank (6)
- 9 Instrument not in drink (6)
- 10 Honest existence directly comparable to reality (4-4)
- 11 How pianist repeatedly was cautious and gentle (6-6)
- 13 Minor actor's bonus (5)
- 14 River crossing Irish county (9)
- 17 Boffin, potentially nicest one, by the way (9)
- 19 Political group festivity (5)
- 21 Varnish from two countries (6,6)
- 24 50 suffering lose strength (8)
- 25 How one's eyes lacked shininess when fitted with glass (6)
- 26 Behold the boil (6)
- 27 Moving free, not, say, from this (4-4)

#### DOWN

- 2 Some pressure Lydia exerted on trust (4)
- 3 Lack of self-restraint of a French substitute (9)
- 4 Aptly describe ring included by fifth amazingly (3,3)
- 5 Girl from Matthew and topless Hilda (7)
- 6 Edward, after game, was steamrollered (8)
- 7 Spicy dish consumed by pupil afterwards (5)
- 8 Pass through antler if it moves (10)
- 12 Provoke troublesome bearcat in river (10)
- 15 With camera accessory returned to scene of the past (9)
- 16 Out of sorts timtice harbouring first parasite (4-4)
- 18 Mother's turn to stifle (7)
- 20 Dance, injuring leg, in irregular shaking motion (6)
- 22 Nearly time, time after sunset (5)
- 23 The lady's love for brave man (4)

### SCRIBBLE HERE



### QUICK CLUES

#### ACROSS

- 1 ABC (8)
- 6 Wine-vessel (6)
- 9 Match statistician (6)
- 10 Act out part (4-4)
- 11 Yield (7,5)
- 13 Cinema film (5)
- 14 Of the Eastern Roman Empire (9)
- 17 Detailed route (9)
- 19 Veracity (5)
- 21 Straight off (4,4,4)
- 24 Easily bent (8)
- 25 Stone table (6)
- 26 Newsgroups worldwide (6)
- 27 Very high (8)

#### DOWN

- 2 Scottish lake (4)
- 3 Capital of Crete (9)
- 4 Three-masted vessel (6)
- 5 Underjailer (7)
- 6 Blind alley (3-2-3)
- 7 City in North Yorkshire (5)
- 8 Religious brotherhood (10)
- 12 Iron grating (10)
- 15 Strangler (9)
- 16 Flying-fox (5-3)
- 18 Vote for again (2-5)
- 20 Do wash (anag.) (6)
- 22 One from SW USA (5)
- 23 Thin (4)

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

### SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No121

#### EASY



#### MEDIUM



#### HARD



Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

### CRYPTIC SOLUTION No121

**ACROSS:** 1 Squashy 5 Wheyish 9 Saki 10 Sacramento 12 Commando 13 End-all 14 Transforming 17 Torch battery 21 Gnomie 23 Toll road 24 Editorship 25 Lazy 26 Epitome 27 New York **DOWN:** 2 Quahog 3 Axiomatic 4 Hosanna 6 Heave ho 7 Yield 8 Settling 11 Cross-stitch 15 Mayoralty 16 Joined-up 18 Buckram 19 Ellipse 20 Panzer 22 Motet.

### QUICK SOLUTION No122

**ACROSS:** 1 Alphabet 6 Carrie 9 Scorer 10 Texan 23 Lean 16 Fruitbat 18 Re-elect 20 Shadow 22 Fraternally 12 Portcullis 15 Throatter Barque 5 Turnkey 6 Cul-de-sac 7 Ripon 8 Towering **DOWN:** 2 Loch 3 Heraldon 4 that 24 Flexible 25 Dolmen 26 Usenet 27 Bizarre 17 Tintery 19 Thrift 21 Just like Role-play 11 Knuckle under 13 Movie 14



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# It's not all about The Beatles

■ BY JEREMY GATES

THE legend of The Beatles and their global impact on the 1960s burns brighter than ever, almost half a century on.

My first visit to their hometown was in the Sixties. On later visits I wondered why it was so hard to find a hotel with views of the Mersey.

Maybe Liverpool's reign as European Capital of Culture 2008 solved that little local problem.

That event drew 15 million visitors to cultural events and big attractions, generated £800 million for the local economy and established Liverpool as the biggest draw to foreign visitors outside London – with tourist numbers up almost 190 per cent since 2000.

Now a string of hotels, for all tastes and pockets, lines the waterfront alongside the 'Three Graces' – the Liver, Cunard and Port of Liverpool buildings, all landmarks depicting the city's greatness in the 19th century.

Our base was Jurys Inn Hotel, next door to both the Albert Dock – named a World Heritage site in 2004 for its magnificent Grade I-listed buildings – and a conference and convention centre that stages anything from pop concerts to political meetings.

To pack the key sights into a short stay, get 24-hour tickets for the 'Hop on, hop off' sight-seeing bus which takes in The Cavern, cathedrals, Chinatown, Albert Dock, Mersey Ferry terminal, the Walker Art Gallery and the Tate Liverpool. It's a real bargain at just £8 per adult, £4 per child.

To explore the Liverpool of the past, we headed for the remarkable Maritime Museum, which has astonishing tales of the



**RIVER VIEWS:** The Mersey got a new look during Liverpool's reign as Capital of Culture; right, the city's cathedral

bitter struggle between the Merchant Navy and Nazi subs in the frozen wastes of the Atlantic in the Second World War.

In the same building, the International Slavery Museum details the role of prominent Liverpool-based merchants among exhibits which include original shackles, chains and instruments used for slave punishment.

Outside our hotel, a minibus service provided by the National Trust took visitors to the terraced house in the suburb of Woolton, where John Lennon spent his early years in the care of his Aunt Mimi, and also to the childhood home of Sir Paul McCartney.

In truth, there is little reason for leaving this

Magical Mystery Tour before you see all you wish to see: the expansion of hotels has squeezed room rates, and the landlords who kept Liverpool afloat in the dark days before the tourist hordes descended must be bemoaning their luck.

In the evening, of course, it's time to explore Liverpool's numerous pubs, clubs and places to eat. The Monro is a gastropub, while Alma de Cuba, inside the converted Catholic Church of St Peter's, is among the most popular bars.

Liverpool nightlife is, and always has been, in a class of its own – which might explain why those early-dawn glimpses of Birkenhead across the water often seem so dark and hazy.

## FACT FILE: LIVERPOOL

Jeremy Gates was a guest of Jurys Inn Liverpool, which offers double rooms from £67 per night. Breakfasts cost £7 per person, and parking is £750 for 24 hours.

Jurys Inn Liverpool reservations: 0151 244 3777 and [www.jurysinns.com](http://www.jurysinns.com).

Jeremy travelled by Virgin Trains, which offers advance fares for Euston-Liverpool from £22 return (standard class), and £68 (first). Weekend passengers can upgrade to first-class for £15 per person, each way.

Virgin Trains reservations: 08457 222 333 and [www.virgintrains.com](http://www.virgintrains.com).

Thomas Cook Sport Liverpool Match Breaks for Europa League and Premier League games start at £119 per person, including accommodation, match ticket and programme.

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Destination details: The Merseyside Partnership (0151 227 2727 and [www.merseyside.org.uk](http://www.merseyside.org.uk)) publishes the Liverpool and City Region Visitor Guide, with lots of information also available on [www.VisitLiverpool.com](http://www.VisitLiverpool.com), where you can also book accommodation.

Seventeen of England's top cities have formed the partnership of [Citybreaks.org.uk](http://Citybreaks.org.uk) as a one-stop shop providing information about events, attractions, insider ideas, travel links, hotel discounts and free information packs delivered to your door.



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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Dream of home owning may never come true

AN independent housing body has advised that future homebuyers could face average house prices that are 10 times their salary.

Buying a home could become unattainable unless the number of homes being built increases.

A study from new National Housing and Planning Advice Unit said a fifth of non-homeowners think it will take them at least five years before they're able to buy and more than a third believe they will never get onto the property ladder.

The NHPAU was set up by the Government to provide independent advice on improving housing market affordability. Government statistics illustrate that in the year 2000, the average cost of a home was four times the annual salary.

However, by 2006, house price increases meant that homebuyers were looking at seven times their salary.

The demand for housing is on the increase and something must be done or the pressure on the market will only deteriorate. On a further study of 2,700 UK adults, NHPAU discovered the majority states the government need to take action to make housing more affordable.

### The mortgage lending market still 'restrained'

THE Council of Mortgage Lenders has revealed that the number of home loans approved for house purchase fell four per cent in November compared with the previous month.

According to the CML, there were 53,000 mortgages granted to buyers, a fall on October but this was due to a "seasonal dip".

However, the CML did highlight that the figures were still 66 per cent higher than in November 2008.

Remortgaging activity continued to remain at low levels, as a result of the low interest rate environment, said the CML.

The Council added that first-time buyers were still having to put down a hefty deposit of 25 per cent but with interest rates still remaining at the historic low of 0.5 per cent, mortgage interest payments are so affordable for homemovers and first-time buyers.

However, the CML's director general Michael Coogan said: "With substantial deposits still needed to secure a mortgage, the market will continue to be relatively restrained for some time to come."



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**THEY'RE IN THE MONEY:** Overall in 2009 landlords were £12,700 in the black, almost reversing £15,000 losses in 2008 and 2010 is set to see higher returns than 2009

# Landlords look forward to profitable returns

■ BY NICK AMES

THE buy-to-let property market in the UK is looking forward to a promising 2010 after strong returns combined with low arrears made 2009 much better than expected.

Overall in 2009 landlords were £12,700 in the black, almost reversing £15,000 losses in 2008 and 2010 is set to see higher returns than 2009, according to the latest Buy to Let Index from LSL Property Services, the UK's largest residential letting agents.

It also shows that although increases in property values and a recent slight drop in rents caused dip in yields, tenant arrears performed strongly in 2009, contrary to expectations, and landlords enjoyed a 7.6 per cent annual return on their investments by the end

of December 2009.

The value of their properties rose three per cent in the year while rental income after void periods added a further 4.6 per cent. This means that in 2009 a typical landlord made a return of £12,740. This was a combination of modest capital gains of £4,831 on each property and £7,909 in rental income.

By contrast, in 2008, a typical landlord would have lost 8.8 per cent even after allowing for rental income. They lost £23,000 in capital as the property fell in value, and earned £7,900 in rent for the full year, leading to a total loss of £15,100.

"Despite the worst recession in living memo-

ry, and despite house prices continuing to fall for the first few months of 2009, investment returns in buy-to-let were very respectable.

"The £12,700 the average landlord made on a rented property during the year recouped most of the losses in the housing crash of 2008. Brave landlords who added to their portfolios will be celebrating an excellent year," said David Brown, commercial director of LSL Property Services.

Rents ended 2009 0.2 per cent higher than the previous year.

"Landlords must not lose sight of rental income when house prices move up, however. Rents should form the foundation of buy-to-let investment and are key to financing mortgage borrowings. Allowing yields to drop too low is inadvisable," added Mr Brown.

## RICS predicts further house price rises at beginning of 2010

THE Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) has reported that house price growth slowed in December.

Almost one third of surveyors reported price gains than falls during the month. However, the positive balance was lower than in the previous two months.

RICS did point out that a shortage of properties on the market is continuing to drive up house prices and it is predicting further gains in the early part of this year

but this will be followed by modest falls in the latter half of the year, resulting in a small overall rise of one to two per cent.

Many other experts are predicting house prices will be flat over the course of the next 12 months as a result of the current economic uncertainty.

RICS spokesman Jeremy Leaf said: "The recent loss of momentum in prices and the moderation in new buyer interest can be in part attributed to the housing

market pulling down its shutters for Christmas.

"It is likely the new year will see more interest and activity in the market as those who held back start to market their property with renewed optimism," added Mr Leaf.

Many analysts were surprised by the strength in house prices last year. RICS said house prices rose for the seventh consecutive month in December.

This corresponded with many

other house price indices with the Halifax reporting that prices were 1.1 per cent higher in December compared with a year ago – the first annual rise since March 2008.

Meanwhile, RICS said seven out of 12 regions showed price increases in the past three months, while the remainder experienced falls. The biggest gains were experienced in London and the southeast of England.

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## Rochester



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## Rochester



**£165,000**

four bed roomed extended semi-detached boasts double glazing, central heating, fitted kitchen.

## Hoo



**£165,700**

Two bedroom semi-detached, lounge, fitted kitchen/ diner, en suite shower room and bathroom.

## Hoo



**£172,000**

Semi detached with three bedrooms, lounge, re-fitted kitchen/diner, gardens and garage.

## Chattenden



**OIRO £229,000**

Three bedroom town house, full kitchen, utility room and cloakroom, lounge/dining room.

## Rochester



**OIEO £295,000**

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## Rochester



**OIRO £325,000**

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## MOTORS NEWS



### Alfa's sporty economy

SPORTING credentials should not bar you from being environmentally-aware – that's the message from Italy's Alfa Romeo.

And it follows the launch of new 'MultiAir' engines (from £15,165) now offered in the popular MiTo supermini line-up, including a 170bhp 1.4 MultiAir Cloverleaf performance flagship (£17,895) that can sprint from 0-62mph in 7.5 seconds yet average at least 45mpg while generating much lower CO2 emissions.

All MultiAir models come with 'Start and Stop' technology too, which cuts and then automatically re-starts the engine at the traffic lights.



### Merc estate showing its 'crammability' class

ONE of the classic quality load-luggers is now available in new generation guise – the Mercedes-Benz E-Class Estate (from £29,785).

It can also be bought with an engine generating as little as 150g/km of CO2 from its exhaust pipe and capable of averaging nearly 50mpg.

'Crammability' is as good as ever with self-levelling rear suspension as standard and a load space claimed to be best in class. Rear seats can be folded down using just one finger says M-B.



### Octavia's new options

SKODA'S popular Octavia model has gained two attractions – an ultra-frugal/low-emission 1.2-litre turbo petrol engine and an economical diesel with DSG gearbox.

The former (from £12,935) underlines a trend towards leaner and cleaner small capacity petrol units, while the latter brings the ultra-flexible double-clutch auto (and manual) DSG to the Octavia's 1.6-litre diesel unit.

The VW-owned Czech marque offers the DSG on the small petrol engine too for extra flexibility and all of these new options can be bought in either Octavia hatch or estate form.



**SHOOTING FOR THE TOP:** Audi's latest A4 is a truly fine car, longer than previous versions with the biggest boot in its class and comes with front wheel and all-wheel drive

# Audi continues drive to the top with its new A4

SALES volumes show Audi still hasn't quite overtaken BMW as the UK's upmarket sector champ.

That VW's snob brand is nicely tucked in on the leader's shoulder though is due largely to the A4, a model defying the mantra that driver-focused cars in this executive sector must be rear-wheel drive, as with the BMW 3-Series, Mercedes-Benz C-Class and Lexus IS.

In response, Audi has made its front-driven contender as good as it can be and also offered it with the all-wheel drive Quattro system for drivers who demand the full handling experience... or the chance to talk about it.

The latest A4 arrived in 2008, putting right a perennial complaint about cabin space, particularly in the back.

It also has the biggest boot in its class.

But the A4 is now a big car and, at 4.72 metres-long by 2.01 wide, it underlines a growth trend, highlighted here by noting that Audi's 1997-2004 A6 – from the market sector above – was 4.79 by 1.99 metres.

The latest A4 is a truly fine car though, so capable in all areas that it is virtually ano-

## ROAD TEST AUDI A4

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

dyne. Whatever the mood, the A4 is so in tune that it slips into the background.

Our road test car was the best-selling A4 2.0 TDI, almost as much of a darling to company car user choosers as the ubiquitous BMW 320d.

In the lower output 120PS (118bhp) SE form as tested (£23,720), it is probably a tad underpowered for the scale of the A4 – there are 143 and 170PS versions – but the ability to average nearly 60mpg is not to be sneered at.

It benefits from a tidy six-speed gearshift, crisp steering and excellent grip and composure in the corners; ride quality is considerably better than the previous car, no doubt helped by the bigger stretch between front and back wheels.

The cabin has the material and ergonomic layout design quality that has made Audi the benchmark brand in its sector.

Needless to say, space and comfort for all is impressive too, although the middle rear seat passenger has to plant his/her feet awkwardly either side of the centre hump.

This accomplished all-rounder may be a hard car to love outright, but it's hard to fault too.



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## USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

## FAMILY CARS

THIS sector used to dominate the UK car market, but sales have been eroded by new categories such as the 4x4 sports utility vehicle and MPV and encroachment by upmarket compact executive models like the BMW 3-Series, which outsells Ford's former UK market leader, the Mondeo, in some months. Nevertheless, many second-hand car buyers still like the idea of a spacious, comfortable and more conventional family runabout and prices can be very affordable, so here are three popular and contrasting sellers based on ability and value.

## FORD MONDEO



ONCE the UK's favourite car, its fall from favour reflects changing tastes rather than the Mondeo's ability. The car's greatest weakness has been the bonnet badge – something the current generation car tries to overcome with Germanic quality and detail. Nevertheless, the previous car was well-built, superb to drive and incredibly spacious. Apart from the best-selling hatchback there is a saloon and one of the roomiest and best-looking estates in the sector.

**STAR QUALITY**

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★☆
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★☆
Reliability	★★★★☆
Quality	★★★★☆

## CITROEN C5



CITROEN'S latest C5 is a stunner inside and out and lives up to ads suggesting that 'the Germans' may be worried. The old car was less of a threat, but never mind the looks – look at the prices. The original C5 has actually proved to be a reliable and great value used buy, with a pliant ride and loads of space; the estate is enormous for anyone needing to cart lots of stuff and diesels are the star buy.

**STAR QUALITY**

Driving appeal	★★★★☆
Looks and image	★★★★☆
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★☆
Reliability	★★★★☆
Quality	★★★★☆

**VW** PASSAT



VW's previous Passat set a higher benchmark for quality and the new version raised the bar again. The German giant knows the best way to counter upmarket rivals, including sister marque Audi, was by upping the standard of the overall package, so the new Passat is more spacious, drives better than previous models and looks good. Factor in some of the best engines, petrol or diesel, choice of saloon or capacious estate, plus modest used prices and it looks irresistible.

**STAR QUALITY**

Driving appeal	★★★★☆
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★☆
Running costs	★★★★☆
Reliability	★★★★☆
Quality	★★★★☆

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**Senior & General Appointments** 36-39

**Public Notices** 39-40

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## EXPERIENCE CAR SALES EXECUTIVE

Based in Maidstone

Whitehouse Maidstone Chrysler Jeep and Hyundai dealership, is looking for an experienced car sales executive with proven track record in the motor trade.

A competitive salary is offered together with on target bonus, company vehicle and 22 days holiday per annum.

To apply or for more information call  
**Mark Wood** on [markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk](mailto:markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk)  
or send your CV to  
**Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8QX**

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6 weeks ago we advertised probably the BEST job ever.

The lucky candidates are now making in excess of £700+ pw OTE. We now need 5 more. If you have a car and phone, call for more info -

**0800 840 1289**

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To advertise in this section

**01303 817040**

## Thanet is a beautiful place to work



Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead.

### Committee Services Manager

**Salary £29,895 to £35,007 per annum**

Under the guidance of the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, this post will be responsible for managing a small team of officers providing committee and scrutiny services, and will contribute to relevant projects, such as the updating of the Council's constitution and the development of a Member learning & development strategy. Applicants need to be educated to degree level and have considerable experience of committee and scrutiny services, including management experience.

### Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

**Salary £26,940 to £30,738 per annum**

This post provides an exciting opportunity for someone with an interest in policy review, because roughly half of the time the post holder will support the Council's overview and scrutiny function. That involves bringing together the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel investigating local issues, the Cabinet Members that take the decisions and the Directors that advise them. A mature approach to undertaking the work is essential, to ensure the scrutiny role adds value to the Council's achievements. The remainder of the time the post holder will provide more general support to some of the Council's other committees, arranging and attending meetings, and taking minutes. Applicants need to be educated to degree level or equivalent.

**The closing date for both positions is: Friday 12 February 2010**  
**Interviews will be held: Tuesday 2 or Wednesday 3 March 2010**

For an informal discussion about both positions, please contact Glenn Back on 01843 577187

All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working, a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail [jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk](mailto:jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk) or download an application form from [www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs). Applications to be returned to: East Kent HR Partnership, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Dover CT16 3PJ

Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview.

## New Year, New Challenge

MidKent College have exciting one year secondment opportunities for the following positions:

**Assistant Principal (£63K)** negotiable subject to experience.

**Head of Faculty (£46K)** negotiable subject to experience.

**Teacher Coach (£33K)** negotiable subject to experience.

MidKent College is a large, successful FE College operating on two main campuses in Medway and Maidstone. Our state of the art, £86 million Medway campus is next door to the Royal School of Military Engineering where the College is training all their soldiers in Construction & Engineering under a 30-year contract.

Our recent OFSTED Inspection described the College as 'good' overall with 'outstanding' capacity to improve. We would like to accelerate our improvement agenda by seconding individuals who will relish the chance to undertake a specific improvement project within the College in areas such as A levels, Skills for Life, Construction, Engineering, Teaching and Learning. Whether you are already in FE, working in a school or Sixth Form College, or working elsewhere in education, this is an ideal opportunity to develop your skills in a supportive environment working alongside some high quality senior leaders.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups and will meet reasonable living expenses for staff who live outside the area.

The roles above are the indicative levels that we seek secondments at. There is, however, some scope for flexibility for high calibre individuals who can help us on our journey to be "outstanding"!

**If you are interested in knowing more please contact our retained consultant Ken Pullan on 07725 128661 or by email [ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk)**



**MidKent College**

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer





## SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR

We are a Ramsgate based private school providing English courses for adult international students throughout the year and summer junior courses at other UK locations. You will have the relevant experience and proven skills to develop and execute new marketing strategies to win profitable business. You will be a passionate sales negotiator willing to undertake significant overseas travel. Excellent leadership, teamwork and communication skills are a must. This is a senior position with a generous remuneration package tailored to attract the best.

CV and current salary to  
Churchill House, Spencer Square, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9EQ  
Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk

## Service Engineer

Ramsgate  
£26,241 plus benefits

Serving 182 stations, Southeastern runs train services in Kent, South East London and part of East Sussex. These are exciting times, as we started operating the new High Speed service in December 2009. We have also been investing heavily in our development programmes, making this an excellent opportunity for you to progress your career.

Working on our fleet as part of a team, you will be responsible for carrying out a range of routine repairs, examination work and first level fault finding as directed by our Production Delivery Engineer.

To do this you need to be experienced in skilled mechanical or electrical work and capable of passing a medical to an engineering standard. You must be able to carry out first level fault finding and follow schematics and diagrams. It would be an advantage if you are familiar with rolling stock maintenance.

We offer an impressive benefits package including Final Salary Pension Scheme and free travel on Southeastern, Southern and London Midland rail services. After a qualifying period you can enjoy reduced rate rail travel on other train operators, including European travel, and reduced rate leisure rail travel for your spouse and any dependent children.

To apply for an information and application pack please email your details to [careers@southeasternrailway.co.uk](mailto:careers@southeasternrailway.co.uk) quoting reference KOS/01.

Closing date: 10th February 2010.

[www.southeasternrailway.co.uk](http://www.southeasternrailway.co.uk)

southeastern.

## Motor Vehicle Training Instructor & NVQ Assessor

The MV trainer will deliver training and carry out assessments on Motor Vehicle Apprentices from our Rochester training centre and cover the Kent region. You must have good Motor Vehicle practical experience which should include HGV systems. You will be a good communicator with an interest in developing Motor Vehicle Apprentices. You should have basic computer skills such as word processing and spreadsheets.

Any candidates with training and assessor qualifications will certainly be of interest although training will be provided for suitably experienced candidates. You will be presentable, flexible, well-organised, self-motivated, prepared to take responsibility and work co-operatively within a team focussed on customers and trainees. You must be able to use your own car to travel throughout Kent.

IPS is a good company to work for with a friendly working environment; the package includes, competitive salary, profit bonus, personal pension, life insurance, medical insurance and other benefits including part time or flexible working arrangements. To apply, email your CV with a covering letter. [kimhollands@ips-international.com](mailto:kimhollands@ips-international.com)

IPS is an equal opportunities employer; we welcome applicants from all sectors of the community, including minority groups

Apply to, Kim Hollands  
IPS International Ltd  
Sir Thomas Longley Road  
Medway City Estate, Rochester  
Kent, ME2 4DU  
E: [kimhollands@ips-international.com](mailto:kimhollands@ips-international.com)



## DOVER GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS Business and Enterprise College International Baccalaureate World School

### Early Intervention Project Worker WAVE Project

**Employer** Dover Grammar School for Boys  
**Salary** £17,140 -  
**Location** Poltons Family Centre, Dover  
**Hours** 37 hours per week  
**Closing Date** 4 February 2010 at Midday  
**1 year fixed term contract or secondment opportunity**

We are looking for a motivated person who is committed to supporting children, young people and families with a range of additional needs.

WAVE is a multi agency, early intervention project. It is managed by a Principle Social Worker, there are 2 Primary Mental Health Workers and 3 WAVE Project Workers in the team.

You will be expected to work with primary children and young people, parents/carers in a variety of settings in school and in the community. You will be working with professionals from voluntary and statutory agencies across both the Dover, Deal and Sandwich Partnerships.

You will be delivering support that will promote the social, emotional, and behavioural needs of children and families in accordance with the Every Child Matters agenda.

You must be able to plan, prepare and deliver direct work in home and school settings and plan and facilitate group work. Experience of work within a school and family setting is essential.

You will encourage independence, resilience and good emotional wellbeing through understanding normal child development, attachment theory and emotional literacy, and have the ability to effectively communicate with children and young people, their parents/carers and professionals from other agencies.

You must have a flexible approach, a sound values base and be able to work effectively in a team as well as independently and have a commitment to equal opportunities, good time management and organisational skills, which will include good record keeping skills and the ability to communicate clearly in writing.

You will be expected to travel throughout the district in undertaking your work.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

**THIS POST IS NOT TERM TIME ONLY**

For a Job description and application form please contact  
Jayne Bradshaw on 01304-861616.



### The following staff are required for a small children's home in the Swanley area:

**Senior Residential Childcare Workers** (dependent on qualifications and experience)

- Qualified to NVQ 3 Health and Social Care, Children and Young People or equivalent
- Minimum of one year working in a Residential Children's Home at a senior level essential.

**Residential Childcare Workers** (dependent on qualifications and experience)

- Experience of working in a Children's home essential

**Waking Night Officers**

- Experience of working in a Children's home is essential

**Part time Residential Child Care Worker** (Tuesdays 8.30am – 4.30pm) this is NOT a term time only role. This role will involve supporting the teaching staff/ care staff in the home and school, including teaching assistant duties.

All candidates for all posts **MUST** have a current enhanced CRB and be able to drive.

**Experience and confidence of working with children with challenging behaviour is essential and all candidates will be short listed on this area of expertise.**

**In return we will offer:**

- Challenging and varied work
- Full Induction program
- Regular professional supervision
- Full training package including professional qualification

For an informal discussion and an application form, please call: **01474 871999**

Or go to [www.jandrcareLtd.co.uk](http://www.jandrcareLtd.co.uk) where you can download a job description and application form. If you would like to email the completed application form, please send to [jnparish@aol.com](mailto:jnparish@aol.com)

## PARTS ADVISOR

Based in Maidstone

Whitehouse Maidstone is looking for a Parts Advisor with either Crystler, Jeep or Hyundai experience.

A competitive salary is offered with 22 days holiday per annum.

To apply please submit your CV via email to [darren.fiddes@whitehousegroup.co.uk](mailto:darren.fiddes@whitehousegroup.co.uk) or by post to  
**Whitehouse Maidstone,**  
1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone,  
Kent, ME16 8QX

To advertise in  
this section

**01303 817040**



Beech Road, East Malling, Kent, ME19 6DH 01732 840995

### MPS Teacher + SEN 1

Enthusiastic, innovative teacher to join dedicated, supportive staff of Tydeman Centre within mainstream secondary school.

Ability to teach variety of subjects to small groups with dyslexia, speech & language, autistic spectrum disorders. To deliver individual tutorial programme to small tutor group.

Primary or Secondary experience; interest in Maths, Science or ASDAN advantage. Specialist training offered.

Tydeman Centre 'outstanding' - OFSTED April 2009

Contact Ann Noble to visit.

Further details / forms from career opportunities link on website: [www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk](http://www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk)

Applications to Elaine Greenwood  
[elaine.greenwood@mhffederation.co.uk](mailto:elaine.greenwood@mhffederation.co.uk)  
by Friday 29 January 2010

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## MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

### Lecturer in Hair

**Ref: P0389**

22.2 hours per week

**Salary: £22,653 - £26,395 pro rata  
Maidstone**

We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

### Lecturer in Holistics

**Ref: P0345**

**Salary: £22,653 - £26,395 per annum  
Maidstone**

We are looking to recruit a dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturer in the Beauty Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

### Instructor in Catering

**Ref: P0384**

**37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year  
Salary: £16,749 - £19,127 pro rata  
Medway**

We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the instruction and assessment of a range of Catering and Hospitality programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and recent experience within the industry and hold the A1 and V1 awards or be willing to work towards them.

### Personal Tutor

**Ref: P0217**

**Full and part time roles available  
Salary: £20,368 - £23,640 per annum / pro rata  
Medway**

As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification.

### Hourly Paid Lecturer in Catering

**Ref: SE134**

**Hourly Rate: £24.42 - £27.05  
Medway**

We are looking to appoint a passionate individual to teach on a variety of practical catering qualifications, facilitating student learning and achievement. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

### Hourly Paid Lecturers in Engineering

**Ref: SE456**

**Hourly Rate: £24.42 - £27.05  
Medway**

As a Sessional Lecturer you will be required to teach across the Faculty of Advanced Construction & Engineering at all levels from First/National up to Foundation Degree. Candidates would need to have a minimum HNC qualification and be a specialist in at least one of the following Engineering disciplines: Mechanical, Plant & Processes, Manufacturing, Electrical, and Electronics.

### Hourly Paid Lecturer in Plumbing and Heating

**Ref: SE845**

**Hourly Rate: £24.42 - £27.05  
Medway**

An opportunity has arisen within the Construction & Building Services Faculty for a Sessional Lecturer to contribute to the delivery development and teaching of Plumbing, Heating and Gas programmes. This post will offer an exciting opportunity to develop and deliver Level 3 Building Services programmes. The ideal candidates must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Eng. Services Industry; have sufficient teaching experience and resources to deliver Level 3 programmes. You must have a recognised teaching qualification; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Mandatory Awards in Water & Gas and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards.

**Closing Date: Wednesday 10 February 2009**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk) for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

**MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer**

## Housekeeper

A professional couple based in central Tunbridge Wells require a reliable and trustworthy housekeeper to work for 10-12 hours per week covering the following duties:

- General cleaning and housework
- Washing and ironing
- Dry cleaning drop off/collection
- Food shopping

If you are interested in this role please send a letter explaining why you feel you would be suited to the role to [ask@hradvise.me](mailto:ask@hradvise.me) or write to HR Advise Me Ltd, 15-17 Mount Ephraim Road, Tunbridge Wells. TN1 1EN.

Competitive rate of pay offered, working hours to be agreed.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE TO AMALGAMATE OAKLANDS INFANT SCHOOL AND OAKLANDS JUNIOR SCHOOL

#### Part 1: Closure of Oaklands Infant School

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR intends to discontinue the following Community School with effect from 31 August 2012.

Oaklands Infant School, Weedswood Road, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent ME5 0QS.

It is proposed that pupils attending this school will automatically transfer to the extended Oaklands Junior School being proposed in part 2 below. Admission may also be sought to other schools which have places available.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below, which will be at the same site with the same resources and therefore SEN provision will be unaffected.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below, which will be at the same site, and therefore the expectation is that travel patterns will not change and that there will be no increase in car usage.

#### Part 2: Prescribed alteration to Oaklands Junior School

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR intends to make prescribed alterations to the following Community school with effect from 01 September 2012

Oaklands Junior School, Weedswood Road, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent ME5 0QS.

The prescribed alterations proposed are the enlargement of Oaklands Junior School to create an all through primary school with an increase in pupil numbers, and the alteration of the lower age limit. The present age range is 7-11 and the proposed primary school will have an age range of 3-11. The proposed alteration will make provision for both full-time and part-time nursery pupils.

The enlargement of the school will follow the closure of the Infant School on 31 August 2012.

The current capacity of the Junior school is 200, and the proposed capacity will be 350. The actual number of pupils at the Junior School at the time of this proposal is 169. The current admission number for the school is 50 and the proposed admission number will be 50.

The proposed school will be based on the site of the predecessor schools in the existing buildings and so no new or additional site will be required.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Telephone 01634 334013 or at the following web address [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk).

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them in writing to Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR, or by e-mail to [prim.reorg@medway.gov.uk](mailto:prim.reorg@medway.gov.uk)

Signed: Rose Collinson

Publication Date: 25 January 2010



**PUBLIC NOTICE TO AMALGAMATE THAMES VIEW JUNIOR SCHOOL AND THAMES VIEW INFANT SCHOOL**

**Part 1: Closure of Thames View Junior School**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR intends to discontinue the following Community School with effect from 31 March 2012.

Thames View Junior School, Bloors Lane, Rainham, Kent ME8 7DX

It is proposed that pupils attending this school will automatically transfer to the extended Thames View Infant School being proposed in part 2 below. Admission may also be sought to other schools which have places available.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below which will be at the same site with the same resources and therefore SEN provision will be unaffected.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school which will be at the same site, and therefore the expectation is that travel patterns will not change and that there should be no increase in car usage.

**Part 2: Prescribed alteration to Thames View Infant School**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council (Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR) intends to make prescribed alterations to the following Community school with effect from 01 April 2012.

Thames View Infant School, Bloors Lane, Rainham, Kent ME8 7DX.

The prescribed alterations proposed are the enlargement of Thames View Infant School to create an all through primary school with an increase in pupil numbers, and the alteration of the upper age limit. The present age range is 3-7, and the proposed all-through primary school will have an age range of 3-11.

The enlargement of the school will follow the closure of the Junior School on 31 March 2012.

The current capacity of the Infant School is 180 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The actual number of pupils at the Infant School at the time of this proposal is 162. The current admission number for the school is 60 and the proposed admission number will be 60. The Infant School already offers early years provision which will be continued once the Junior School closes and the Infant School enlarges and extends the age range.


The proposed school will be based on the site of the predecessor schools in the existing buildings, and so no new or additional site will be required.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Telephone 01634 334013 or at the following web address [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk).

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them in writing to Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR or by e-mail to [prim.reorg@medway.gov.uk](mailto:prim.reorg@medway.gov.uk)

Signed: Rose Collinson

Publication Date: 25 January 2010



**PUBLIC NOTICE TO AMALGAMATE LUTON INFANT SCHOOL AND LUTON JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**Part 1: Closure of Luton Infant and Junior School**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR intends to discontinue the following Community Schools with effect from 31 August 2014.

Luton Infant School, Alexandra Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 5AP  
Luton Junior School, Luton Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 5AW

It is proposed that pupils attending these schools will automatically transfer to the new school being proposed in part 2 below. Admission may also be sought to other schools which have places available.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below which will be at the same site with the same resources and therefore SEN provision will be unaffected.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below, which will be at the same site, and therefore the expectation is that travel patterns will not change and that there will be no increase in car usage.

**Part 2: Establish a new school, Luton Primary School**

Notice is given that Medway Council (Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR) intends to establish a new community primary school under section 10(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The Secretary of State's consent has been obtained in order to publish this proposal.

It is proposed that the school will open on 1 September 2014.

The school will be situated on a single site at Alexandra Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 5AW. The school will serve the existing catchment area of the schools in Part 1, which encompasses the Luton area of Chatham.

The ethos of the school is yet to be established, although we would wish it to combine the best elements of the predecessor schools named in Part 1. The predecessor schools provide a varied range of extended services. The new school will continue to provide extended services which comprises; Childcare, swift and easy referral to specialist services, community access, range of activities, parenting support, and links with outside groups and organisations.

The new school will cater for pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 and provide places for 630 Primary age pupils, both boys and girls. In addition, a further 75 full time equivalent places will be provided for nursery pupils. The Infant School already offers early years provision, which will be replicated in the new school.

The admission number for the school on the opening date will be 90.

The admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria for the new school will be prioritised as follows:-

- Children in public care;
- Current family association (a brother or sister in the school at the time of application and still attending in September of the year of entry),
- Multiple birth children,
- Child's health reasons. Medical evidence must be provided which demonstrates a specific health reason which requires a child to attend the preferred school,
- Nearness of children's homes

In the event of a tie within any criterion, before the last criterion, places will be allocated to those living closest to the school measured by the shortest available walking route. Nearness of childrens homes will be measured by the shortest available safe walking route between home and school as measured by Medway Council's geographical information system.

The admission authority of the proposed new school will be the Local Authority.

The school will have no specific Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision, however the school will continue to support pupils with identified SEN as named on the Statement of SEN.


The Local Authority's current transport policy will continue to apply to the new school including the School Travel Plans currently adopted individually by the above closing schools. Upon the new school opening it will be necessary for a new School Travel Plan to be written and implemented.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Telephone 01634 334013 or at the following web address [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk).

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them in writing to Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR, or by e-mail to [prim.reorg@medway.gov.uk](mailto:prim.reorg@medway.gov.uk)

Signed: Rose Collinson

Publication Date: 25 January 2010



**PUBLIC NOTICE TO AMALGAMATE BARNSOLE JUNIOR SCHOOL AND BARNSOLE INFANT SCHOOL**

**Part 1: Closure of Barnsole Junior School**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR intends to discontinue the following Community School with effect from 31 August 2013.

Barnsole Junior School, Barnsole Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 2JG

It is proposed that pupils attending this school will automatically transfer to the extended Barnsole Infant School being proposed in part 2 below. Admission may also be sought to other schools which have places available.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below which will be at the same site with the same resources and therefore SEN provision will be unaffected.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below which will be at the same site, and therefore the expectation is that travel patterns will not change and that there will be no increase in car usage.

**Part 2: Prescribed alteration to Barnsole Infant School**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council (Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR) intends to make prescribed alterations to the following Community school with effect from 01 September 2013.

Barnsole Infant School, Sturdee Avenue, Gillingham, Kent ME7 2JE.

The prescribed alterations proposed are the enlargement of Barnsole Infant school to create an all through primary school with an increase in pupil numbers, and the alteration of the upper and lower age limits. The current age range is 4-7, and the proposed alterations will create a primary school with an age range of 3-11. The proposed alteration will make provision for an integrated foundation stage which will provide places for both full and part-time pupils

The enlargement of the school will follow the closure of the Junior School on 31 August 2013.

The current capacity of the school is 269 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The actual number of pupils at the time of the proposal is 205. The current admission number for the school is 90 and the proposed admission number will be 60.

The proposed school will be based on the sites of the predecessor schools in some existing buildings, together with some new buildings utilising funds allocated from the Medway Primary Capital Programme. No additional site will be required.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Telephone 01634 334013 or at the following web address [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk).

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Signed: Rose Collinson

Publication Date: 25 January 2010



**PUBLIC NOTICE TO AMALGAMATE TWYDALL INFANT SCHOOL AND TWYDALL JUNIOR SCHOOL TO CREATE A NEW COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Part 1: Closure of Twydall Infant and Junior Schools**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR intends to discontinue the following Community Schools with effect from 31 August 2011.

Twydall Infant School, Twydall Lane, Gillingham ME8 6JS  
Twydall Junior School, Romany Road, Gillingham ME8 6JH

It is proposed that pupils attending these schools will automatically transfer to the new school being proposed in part 2 below. Admission may also be sought to other schools which have places available.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below which will be at the same site with the same resources and therefore Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision will be unaffected.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below which will be at the same site, and therefore the expectation is that travel patterns will not change and that no increase in car usage is anticipated.

**Part 2: Establish a new school, Twydall Primary School**

Notice is given that Medway Council (Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR) intends to establish a new community primary school under section 10(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The Secretary of State's consent has been obtained in order to publish this proposal.

It is proposed that the school will open on 1 September 2011.

The school will be situated on a single site at Twydall Lane, Gillingham ME8 6JS. The school will serve the existing catchment area of the schools in Part 1 which encompasses the Twydall area of Gillingham.

The ethos of the school is yet to be established, but would combine the best elements of the predecessor schools named in Part 1. The new school will continue to provide a varied range of extended services comprising; Childcare, swift and easy referral to specialist services, community access, range of activities, parenting support, and links with outside groups and organisations.

The new school will cater for pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 and provide places for 525 Primary age pupils, both boys and girls. The admission number for the school on the opening date will be 75. In addition, a further 65 full time equivalent places will be provided for nursery pupils in the form of a Sure Start Childrens Centre, where children will attend on a part-time or full-time basis as appropriate. There will be a minimum of 10 sessions per week. The early years provision will be inclusive of children with disabilities.

The admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria for the new school will be prioritised as follows:-

- Children in public care;
- Current family association (a brother or sister in the school at the time of application and still attending in September of the year of entry),
- Multiple birth children,
- Child's health reasons. Medical evidence must be provided which demonstrates a specific health reason which requires a child to attend the preferred school,
- Nearness of children's homes

In the event of a tie within any criterion, before the last criterion, places will be allocated to those living closest to the school measured by the shortest available walking route. Nearness of childrens homes will be measured by the shortest available safe walking route between home and school as measured by Medway Council's geographical information system.

The admission authority of the proposed new school will be the Local Authority

The school will continue to support the current specialist SEN provision for 43 pupils with physical disabilities.


The Local Authority's current transport policy will continue to apply to the new school including the School Travel Plan currently adopted individually by the above closing schools. Upon the new school opening it will be necessary for a new School Travel Plan to be written and implemented.

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Signed: Rose Collinson

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**PUBLIC NOTICE TO AMALGAMATE LORDSWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL AND LORDSWOOD INFANT SCHOOL**

**Part 1: Closure of Lordwood Junior School**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR intends to discontinue the following Community School with effect from 31 August 2010.

Lordwood Junior School, Lordwood Lane, Lordwood, ME5 8NN.

It is proposed that pupils attending this school will automatically transfer to the extended Lordwood Infant School being proposed in part 2 below. Admission may also be sought to other schools which have places available.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in part 2 below which will be at the same site with the same resources and therefore SEN provision will be unaffected.

All pupils will be offered places at the amalgamated school being proposed in Part 2 below which will be at the same site, and therefore the expectation is that travel patterns will not change and that there will be no increase in car usage.

**Part 2: Prescribed alteration to Lordwood Infant School**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council (Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR) intends to make prescribed alterations to the following Community school with effect from 01 September 2010.

Lordwood Infant Community school, Lordwood Lane, Lordwood, ME5 8NN.

The prescribed alterations proposed are the enlargement of Lordwood Infant school to create an all through primary school with an increase in pupil numbers, and the alteration of the upper age limit. The present age range is 3-7, and the proposed all-through primary school will have an age range of 3-11.

The enlargement of the school will follow the closure of the Junior School on 31 August 2010.

The current capacity of the Infant school is 180 and the proposed capacity will be 420. The actual number of pupils at the Infant School at the time of the proposal is 149. The current admission number for the school is 60 and the proposed admission number will be 60. The Infant School already offers early years provision which will be continued once the Junior School closes and the Infant School enlarges and extends the age range.


The proposed school will be based on the site of the predecessor schools in the existing buildings and so no new or additional site will be required.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Telephone 01634 334013 or at the following web address [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk).

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Signed: Rose Collinson

Publication Date: 25 January 2010





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Pictures DAVID TREVALLON

**HAT-TRICK:** Andy Smith helped the Mos to a big win

# Dynamos strengthen their grip at the top

## ICE HOCKEY

**Haringey Greyhounds 4**

**Invicta Dynamos 15**

the gap between the sides continued to grow as the Mos clinically took their chances. Joe Johnston, Elliot Andrews and Boike picked up two goals each to send the league leaders into double figures, a week after putting 13 past Peterborough.

Loyde Fuller netted a brace in the final

frame and there was time for Nicky Lewis to get on the score sheet and Smith to complete his hat-trick, while Haringey scored late on.

This weekend the Mos have a double header. They travel to Bracknell Hornets on Saturday and host rock bottom Peterborough Islanders on Sunday. Face-off at the Gillingham Ice Bowl is at 5.15pm.

Elsewhere, David Oliver has left the club after being given the chance to play at a higher level for the rest of the season. The defence man only joined in the summer from Premier League side Romford Raiders, playing 21 games for the club.

## FOOTBALL

Pictures ADRIAN LINE

**SENT OFF:** John Wilfort (right) was red carded

## O'Brien in call for Chats to improve

### Leatherhead 3 Chatham Town 0

CHATHAM Town's players have been told to improve their fitness after producing a limp display in the defeat at Leatherhead on Saturday.

The home side, well below the Chats in the Ryman South table, dominated the game but had to wait until the second-half to convert their pressure into goals. The visitors offered little and to compound their miserable afternoon, had John Wilfort sent off late on.

Manager Alex O'Brien was deeply unhappy with the display and knew almost from the kick-off something was not right about his players.

He said: "I knew two minutes in. As early as that you look at the players and didn't feel a buzz. We didn't feel our players were sharp, we were sluggish."

"We had a quick chat afterwards, I gave them my views and no one could argue. We've said it from the start, the first thing you do is work hard. We've asked the players to get fitter, mature and asked a bit more from the experienced players."

One of the few positives to come out of the game was Rob Denness, who played 90 minutes as he continued his return from injury. The striker's stay at Maidstone Road has been plagued with problems but O'Brien is optimistic the forward will make a successful return.

He said: "The bottom line is he's a fantastic player. He gives us something else and is very good on the ball. A target man who can score goals, it's just getting him fit and I'm sure he'll start scoring."

O'Brien was planning to make changes for last night's Kent Senior Cup tie at Margate, log on to [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) for the details. This Saturday they visit Whitstable Town.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT [glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk)**



THIS week we launched a bid to right a wrong – and get Dame Kelly Holmes the gold medal she still craves.

In a campaign we will take to the very top of world athletics, we want drug cheat Regina Jacobs stripped of the gold she won at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in 2003.

She pipped our Kelly into second place – but just weeks later was exposed as a drug cheat; testing positive for steroids.

Now KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, is launching a bid to win our local heroine the title we feel should now be rightfully hers.

Holmes, who won two gold medals at the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004, was beaten into second place at the indoor 1500m event in Birmingham in March, 2003, by Jacobs.

But Jacobs later failed a drugs test after winning at the US Championships in June.

She was handed a four-year ban, but aged 40 at the time, decided to call time on her career. Jacobs, who has always protested her innocence, was stripped of the national title, but because the World Indoors preceded the failed test, the result in Birmingham still stands.

### Review

We now urge the sport's governing body – the International Association of Athletics Federations – to review this decision in light of a recent case in which Great Britain's 1997 4x400m relay team were awarded the World title after finishing second to a US team which included Antonio Pettigrew.

He admitted using banned substances at the time and consequently, the GB team found out this month they will get their gold medals after the four athletes began a campaign in 2008.

Holmes, from Hildenborough, near Tonbridge, admits the defeat to an athlete who was later found to be using performance enhancing drugs, still rankles.

"I think [the medal] should be taken away from that athlete if they have been done for drugs," she said. "If they have been caught in that year of competition, well they actually didn't just get caught doing it right there and then did they? It was before that."

"[Regina Jacobs] was somebody who was banned that season and yet she wasn't stripped of the gold medal she won in March of that year and I think that's wrong."

"If you have been banned, give back the medal from that year. She got caught and banned and there's a logic to say that, okay, she got caught in June it's more than likely she was using it in March as well. So then give back the medals, not so much mine, but they should be given back as a general rule."

# Gold should have our Kelly's name on it



Picture GETTY IMAGES

**FOOL'S GOLD:** Kelly Holmes can barely hide her contempt as she loses the World Indoor 1500m final to Regina Jacobs in Birmingham in 2003 – Jacobs later failed a drugs test

Eyebrows had been raised six weeks prior to the Birmingham meet when Jacobs, then 39, became the first woman to run 1500 metres in under four minutes indoors, breaking a 13-year world record.

For Holmes, the World Indoor title is one accolade missing from her glittering CV.

"For me, the worst thing was that it was in Birmingham and I would have loved to have stood there as World Indoor champion, but instead I was a silver medallist which is a great achievement, but not when you have done it against a druggie at the end of the day," she said.

KOS Media will lobby the IAAF to re-examine the case and is urging readers to send in their letters of support to help the campaign.

Sports editor Glenn Pearson said: "We feel this is something that needs looking into and the record should be set straight. Dame Kelly has strong views against the use of drugs in sport and so do we."

"We urge our readers to get involved with our campaign."

• **Send letters of support to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, TN25 6SR or by email at [sports@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:sports@kosmedia.co.uk).**

# Battling draw could be a turning point for Gills

## FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Gillingham 0

Colchester United 0

AFTER chastening defeats at Swindon and Accrington in the previous week, Gillingham stopped the rot with a hard-working display against play-off contenders Colchester United on Saturday.

While far from being the prettiest spectacle of the season, it was nonetheless an important result to steady a season which some had feared was poised to go off the rails. A section of fans still booed at the final whistle, but the majority recognised it will not be results like this which they will look back on ruefully if the club falls through the trapdoor in May.

Gills boss Mark Stimson made five changes to his starting line-up from the FA Cup exit at Accrington and was happy with how his new-look side performed.

"The most important thing was to keep a clean sheet and try to win the game," he said. "We didn't create as many chances as we would've liked at home but against a team like



**BATTLE:** Gillingham's Mark Bentley (in blue) wins an aerial contest in Saturday's goalless draw with Colchester

Colchester I'm really pleased."

Stimson handed debuts to Rene Howe, Darren Dennehy and Tristan Plummer, who all signed on loan last week, while youngsters Tom Wynter and Jack Payne also started.

Wynter provided the game's first chance on four minutes, lofting a through ball for Simeon Jackson, whose lob drifted just wide. It was the clearest chance either side could muster before the break in a half lacking quality.

Gillingham built up a head of steam around the hour mark. Substitute Luke Rooney and Howe both tested Colchester goalkeeper Ben Williams, but the visitors survived. Aidy Boothroyd's team almost snatched an unde-

### Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: Rooney (Plummer 63), Yussuff (Barcham 84)

served winner five minutes from time when Kevin Lisbie rose six-yards out, but Alan Julian produced a wonderful stop to divert the firm header on to the crossbar.

The draw edged the Gills up two places in League One but only a point separated them from the bottom four before the midweek games.

Stimson was happy with the performance of his loan signings, all of whom had not played a competitive game for at least two months. But the real reason for his post-match exuberance was the prospect of chasing another target, believed to be experienced Norwich striker Jamie Cureton.

He said about his new transfer target: "He's a centre-forward, small, playing in our division at the moment but has played at a good level. Experienced, a player I would love to afford to bring to this club, it would make life a lot easier."

Gillingham were away to Hartlepool United last night, log on to [www.yourmedway.co.uk](http://www.yourmedway.co.uk) for details. This Saturday they host Walsall.



## TEAM TALK

with Gills skipper  
**BARRY FULLER**

## 'We had a point to prove after cup exit'

AFTER losing at Accrington in the FA Cup last week, all the players just wanted to put it right as quickly as possible and I think we did that against Colchester.

We had an earful from the manager and travelled home down in the dumps; frustrated because we knew it wasn't good enough and disappointed the away fans had to witness it.

We had a point to prove going into Saturday and although we maybe could've got more from the game, it was a good point. The way Colchester play we knew it was going to be tough, they do it well and we needed to stand up for the challenge to grind out a performance.

I thought we gave as good as we got but just couldn't find that breakthrough and we needed a good save from Alan Julian at the end to keep them out. Alan didn't have a lot to do so it's always good in those situations that your goalkeeper is on his toes.

The team had a different look about it with the three new loan signings. I thought they all fitted in really well and looked like we had played a few games together. It's important when new players come in they settle down quickly and I think they've done that. Rene Howe has given us another option, we've been looking for some height and strength up front and hopefully he can build on that performance.

Hopefully we were able to get a result at Hartlepool last night and we can look forward to Saturday's game against Walsall. It's the start of a really important month for us when we play a lot of teams in the bottom half, so we'll be looking to make the most of it.

## LEAGUE TABLES

### COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Norwich City	27	17	6	4	+32	57
2 Leeds United	25	17	6	2	+30	57
3 Charlton Athletic	26	15	9	2	+21	54
4 Colchester United	25	13	7	5	+13	46
5 Swindon Town	24	12	8	4	+15	44
6 Huddersfield Town	25	12	6	7	+19	42
7 Milton Keynes Dons	26	13	3	10	+6	42
8 Millwall	26	10	10	6	+8	40
9 Bristol Rovers	25	12	2	11	-2	38
10 Brentford	26	8	9	9	-3	33
11 Walsall	23	8	7	8	+2	31
12 Yeovil Town	26	7	10	9	-3	31
13 Southend United	26	8	6	12	-5	30
14 Hartlepool United	27	8	6	13	-9	30
15 Southampton (-10)	25	10	9	6	+13	29
16 Carlisle United	24	7	8	9	-4	29
17 Exeter City	27	7	8	12	-10	29
18 Gillingham	26	7	6	13	-7	27
19 Leyton Orient	25	7	6	12	-11	27
20 Brighton & Hove Albion	25	7	6	12	-12	27
21 Oldham Athletic	25	6	8	11	-10	26
22 Tranmere Rovers	25	6	4	15	-23	22
23 Wycombe Wanderers	28	4	8	16	-23	20
24 Stockport County	25	3	6	16	-27	15

### RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

1 Folkestone Invicta	22	16	5	1	+20	53
2 Worthing	23	14	2	7	+17	44
3 Godalming Town	21	13	3	5	+17	42
4 Croydon Athletic	20	11	6	3	+24	39
5 Fleet Town	22	12	3	7	+14	39
6 Walton & Hersham	23	11	5	7	+6	38
7 Ramsgate	22	9	6	7	+5	33
8 Merstham	24	9	6	9	-4	33
9 Chatham Town	24	10	3	11	-8	33
10 Sittingbourne	19	9	4	6	+10	31
11 Dulwich Hamlet	23	7	10	6	+2	31
12 Burgess Hill Town	21	8	6	7	+2	30
13 Horsham YMCA	24	6	10	8	0	28
14 Leatherhead	20	8	3	9	+3	27
15 Whyteleafe	22	8	3	11	+2	27
16 Corinthian-Casuals	22	8	3	11	-6	27
17 Walton Casuals	22	6	5	11	-8	23
18 Metropolitan Police	21	5	7	9	+1	22
19 Chipstead	24	5	6	13	-15	21
20 Whitstable Town	22	6	2	14	-26	20
21 Eastbourne Town	24	3	8	13	-26	17
22 Ashford Town	19	2	6	11	-30	12

### KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 Faversham Town	16	12	2	2	+26	38
2 Heme Bay	13	9	1	3	+13	28
3 Erith & Belvedere	15	9	0	6	+3	27
4 Sevenoaks Town	14	7	3	4	+6	24
5 Beckenham Town	14	7	2	5	+9	23
6 Hythe Town	12	6	4	2	+19	22
7 Tunbridge Wells	17	5	7	5	-1	22
8 Deal Town	14	6	4	4	-2	22
9 Greenwich Borough	14	6	3	5	0	21
10 Sporting Bengal United	16	5	4	7	-12	19
11 Erith Town	12	5	3	4	+6	18
12 Norton Sports	13	5	1	7	-4	16
13 Holmesdale	14	4	1	9	-6	13
14 Fisher	17	3	3	11	-20	12
15 Corinthian	14	2	3	9	-16	9
16 Lordswood	11	0	3	8	-21	3

**FIXTURES (Saturday):** Coca-Cola League One: Gillingham v Walsall; Ryman One South: Whitstable Town v Chatham Town; Kent League Premier Division: Beckenham Town v Lordswood

# Dallas makes light work of Bulgarian Marincev

## BOXING

**HEAVYWEIGHT** Tom Dallas made short work of his latest bout, needing just two rounds to stop Yavor Marincev on Friday night.

The Chatham boxer, 24, looked impressive and sent his opponent to the canvas several times at the Brentwood Centre in Essex. Marincev ended the fight when he failed to come out for the third round.

The Bulgarian was drafted in as a replacement after the much-anticipated fight between Dallas and Carl Baker was cancelled for a second time. Dallas had been preparing hard for the bout, sparring with Olympic bronze medalist and fellow Frank Maloney fighter, David Price.

The relatively experienced Marincev was expected to go the distance after only being stopped once before, although he had lost 17 of his previous 22 fights.

Dallas came out firing and dominated the bout from the outset, not allowing his opponent to get in close and spoil the fight. Ferocious body shots took their toll and Marincev was twice sent to the floor in the second round and he was sufficiently battered to call it a day a third of the way through the six-round contest.

Dallas said: "I'm pleased, he's only been stopped once so for me to beat him in the second round is good. I think since I first started I've come on quite a lot, I think I have got stronger, my movement is better and hopefully I'll keep going forward."



**SEARCH:** Tom Dallas needed just two rounds to defeat latest heavyweight opponent Yavor Marincev

Victory added to Dallas' growing reputation as one of the country's best young heavyweights. He remains undefeated in nine fights, seven of which have been knockouts.

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Mark Stimson discusses his hopes for Gillingham's trio of new signings

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**Mrs E K Fuller, Bridge, Kent.**

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